ALIEN STAGE

OFFICIAL ARTBOOK

ALIEN
STAGE

ALIEN STAGE

To the Segyein, humans are aliens who were born on a foreign planet.
The "Alien" in "Alien Stage" refers to the humans.

AUDITION START

PET HUMAN

SURVIVAL

SEGYEIN

WEALTH AND PRESTIGE

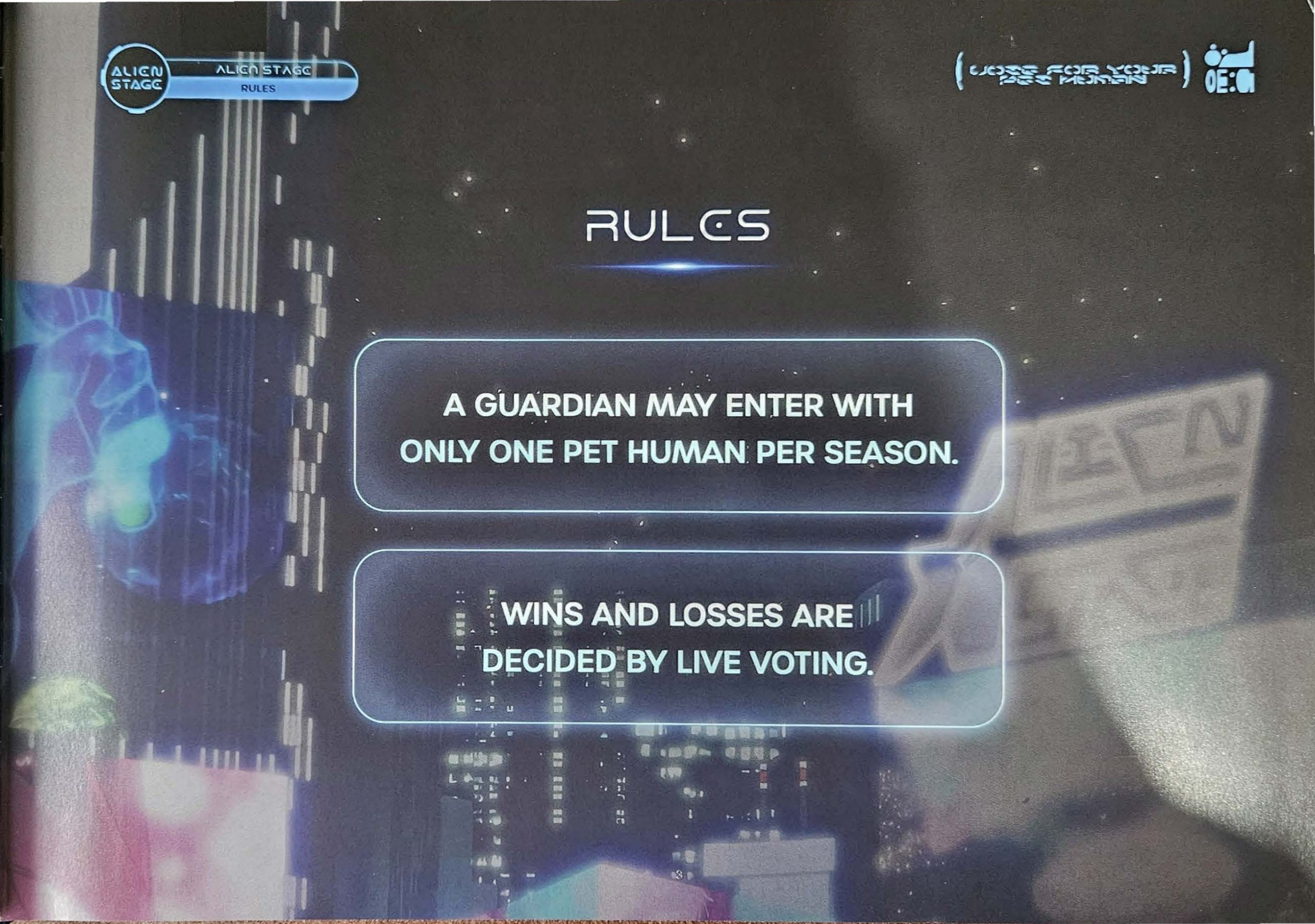
SOCIETAL INFLUENCE

ENTRY INTO UTOPIA

PET HUMAN BUSINESS EXCLUSIVITY

FAME

SOLID CONNECTIONS



RULES

A GUARDIAN MAY ENTER WITH ONLY ONE PET HUMAN PER SEASON.

WINS AND LOSSES ARE DECIDED BY LIVE VOTING.

ANAKT GARDEN

Anakt Garden

A kindergarten created to teach music to pet humans. Established due to the popularity of Alien Stage. With victory in Alien Stage as the ultimate goal, pet humans are rigorously trained from a young age.

Education System

Music education is the primary focus, but there are also etiquette classes that are required for graduation. The curriculum is set up in a way that brainwashes pet humans to have only a vague sense of the concept of death.

Music

Most of the curriculum consists of music classes. They learn singing, dancing, and instrument proficiency.

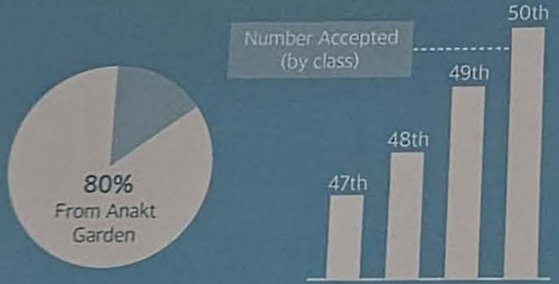
+

Etiquette

They learn the proper form for dedicating their performance with love to the Great Anakt.

[Essential Subjects]
· Maintaining a healthy body and mind
· Getting closer to Great Anakt

Rate of Acceptance Into Alien Stage



Recognition

Since many pet humans from Anakt Garden produce great results in Alien Stage, the Segyein generally came to a consensus that "Alien Stage victory = Enrollment into Anakt Garden." As a result, competition to enroll is fierce and tuition costs are unaffordable without a high income. The quality of education provided is exceptional compared to that of other kindergartens, and owner satisfaction rate is high.

Dorms

YARAN FLOWER

BURU FLOWER

CHALA FLOWER

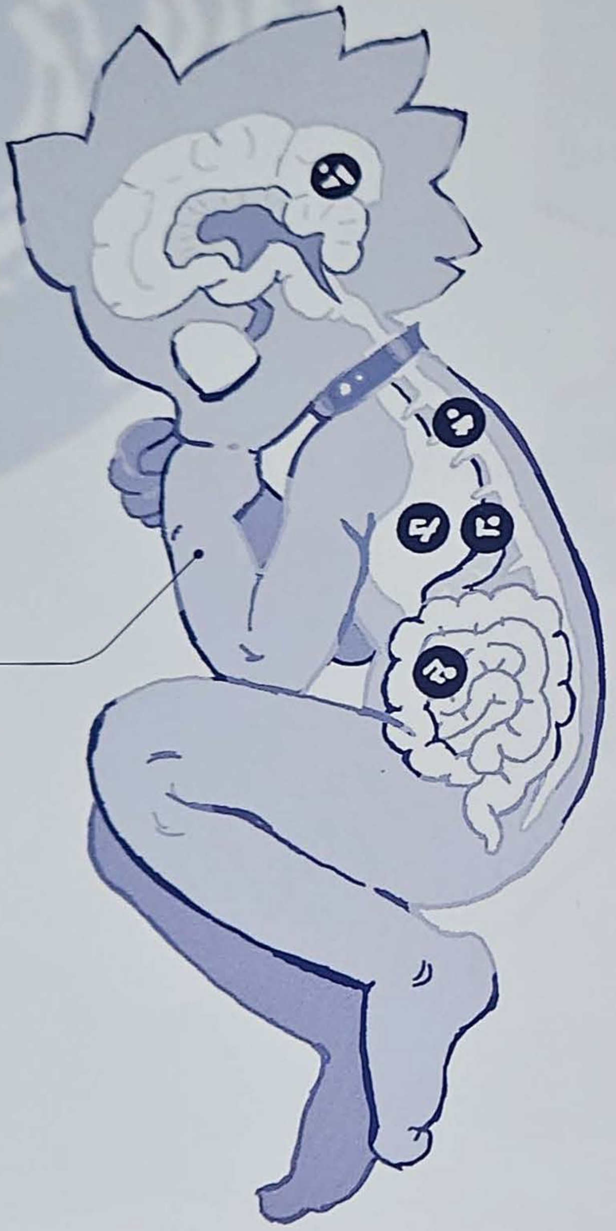
1. Pet humans are put into a dorm as soon as they enroll. Two children reside in one room until the age of 14, after which they each move into their own rooms. Humans are strictly segregated by gender.
2. Pet humans may request periodic cleaning services if desired. However, pet humans going through puberty tend to dislike others coming into their rooms and rarely make use of this service.

Operation

1. Pet humans who show early signs of stardom are chosen to participate in celebrity activities outside of classes.
2. Class assignments are decided after meticulous analysis on the pet humans' preferences and synergies. There are numerous factors that go into this, such as having a positive influence on each other.
3. Once a class assignment is decided, it does not change until graduation. Even though classes are taken separately, they all use the same facilities. Therefore, class assignments don't mean much to the children.

Environment

Cutting edge technology is used to re-enact Earth's living conditions. Everything within Anakt Garden is tailor-made to keep pet humans in the best possible condition.

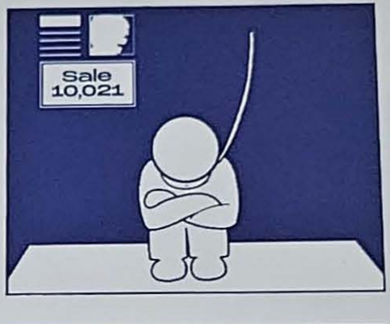


What Are Pet Humans?

A lifeform born with the genes of a human, creatures from Earth. Long ago, Earth was invaded by the Segyein and has since been rendered uninhabitable. A large population of humans now live in space after being taken as souvenirs by the Segyein. As pet humans receive increasing love and attention from the Segyein, technological advancements to create a greater number of exceptional humans have further improved.

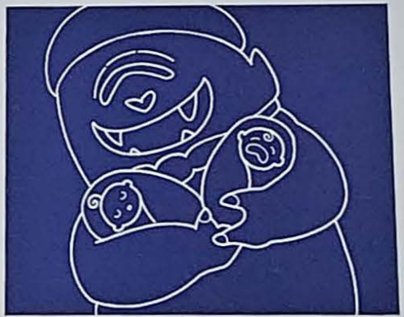
How to Obtain a Pet Human

Obtaining a pet human usually falls under the following three methods.



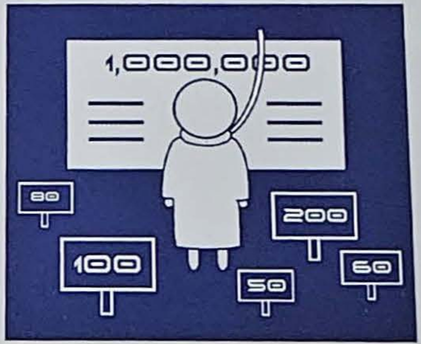
1 Human Multi-Shop

The most common adoption method. Most pet humans are born in a factory and subsequently sent to a human multi-shop.



2 Family Distribution

A Segyein family can breed and distribute pet humans. This allows for adoption of brothers/sisters together as a package deal.

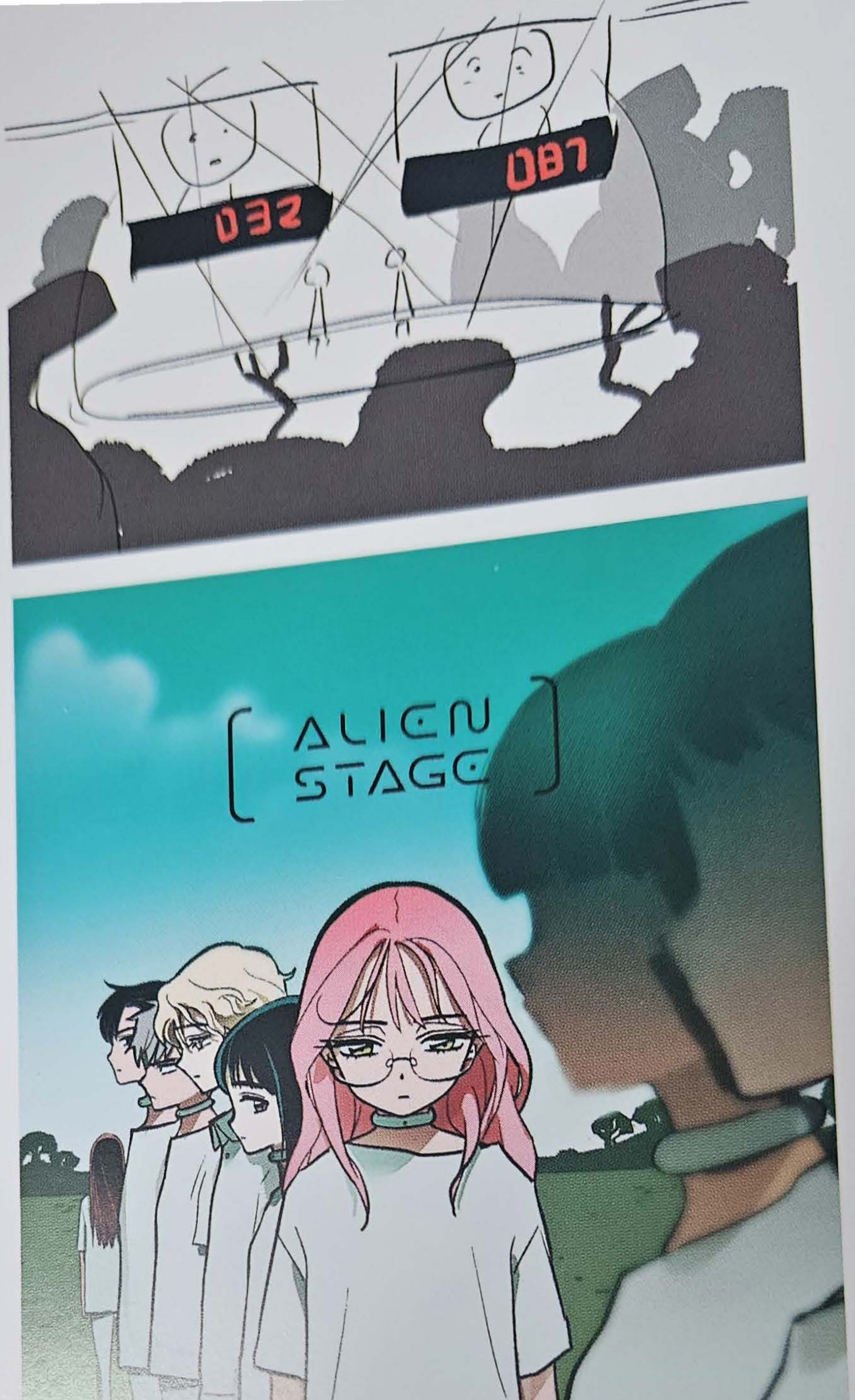


3 Auction

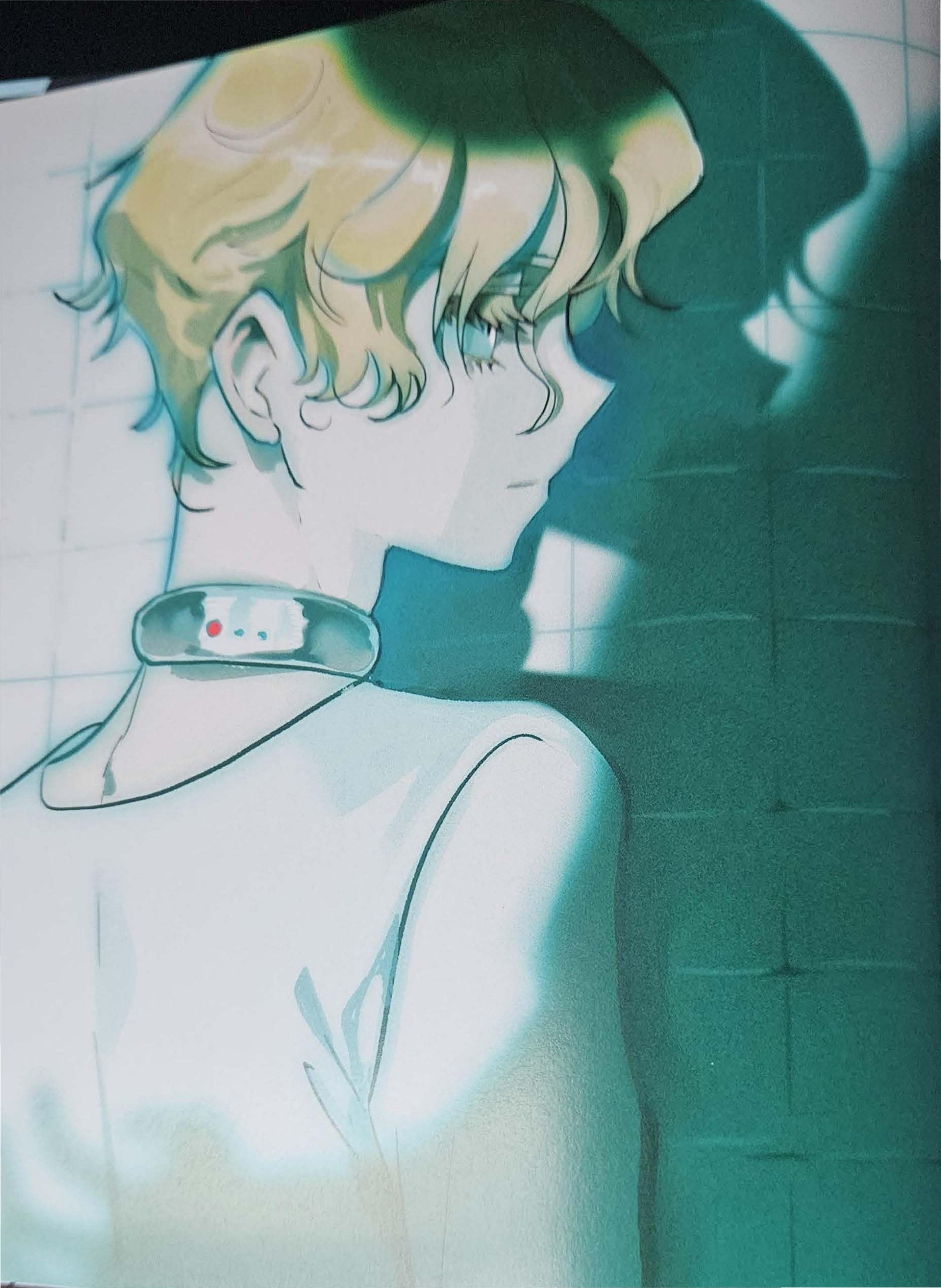
A way to obtain pet humans with rare genes. The auctions greatly vary based on the type of genes the pet human has. While there are legally run auctions, there are also illegal auctions being secretly run in the slums.

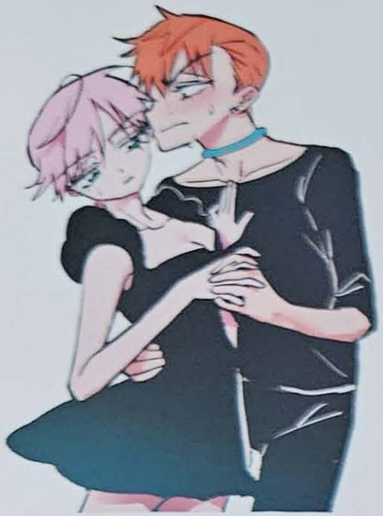
CHAPTER 1

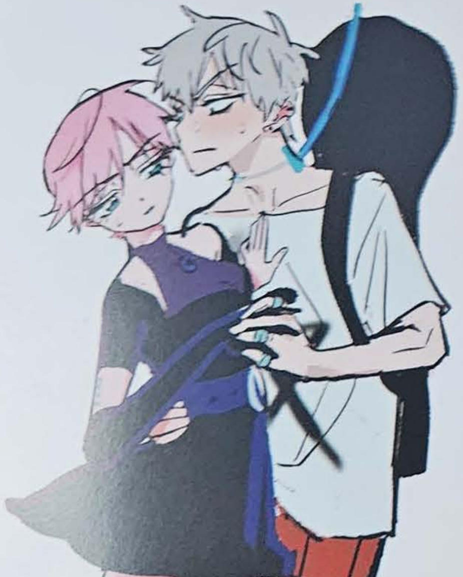
INITIAL CONCEPT

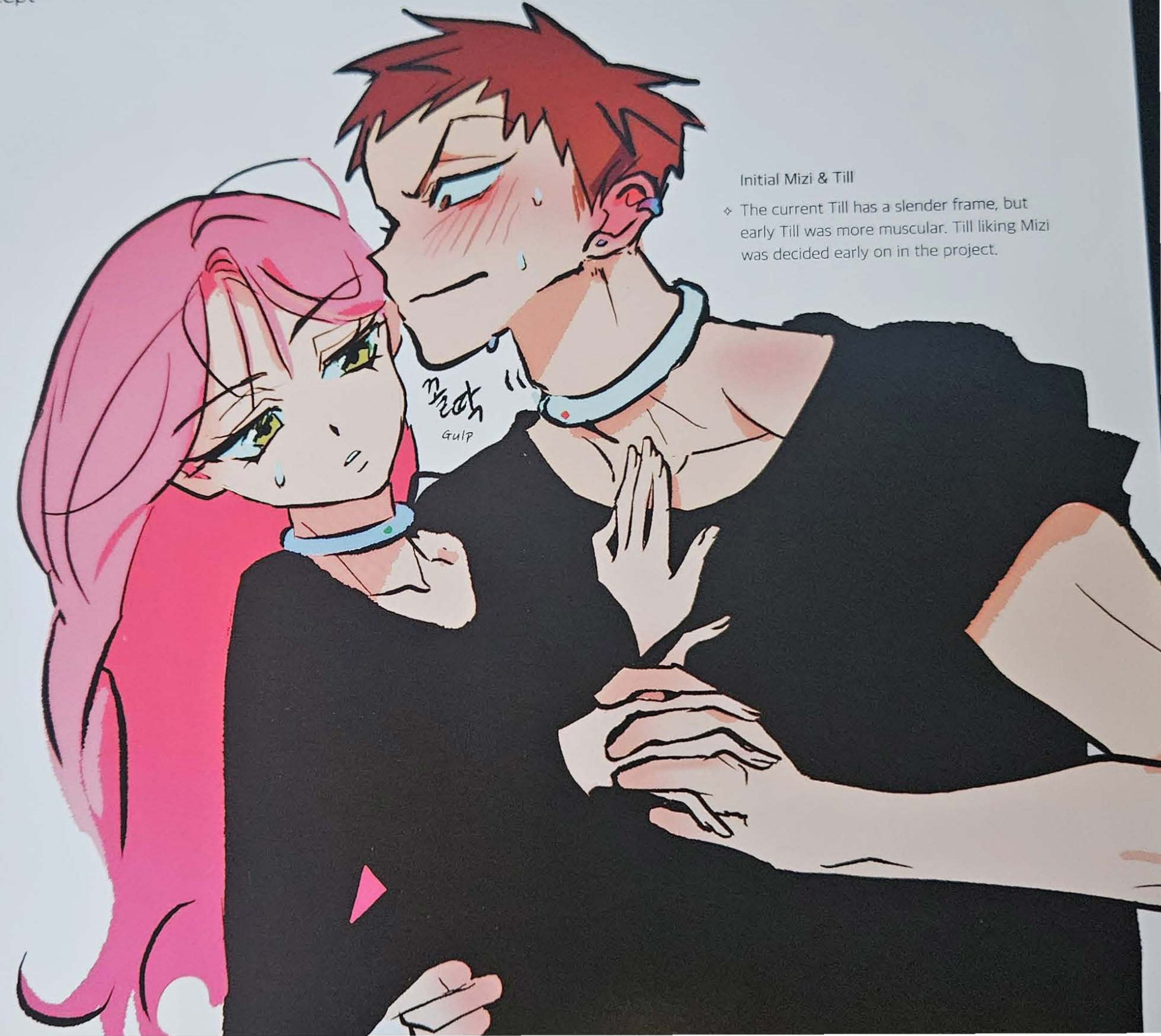


✧ Drawings from early in *Alien Stage*'s conception. We wanted to show the juxtaposition between the revolting aliens alongside the spotlessly clean children. We had a more provocative and straightforward image of the series in our heads.







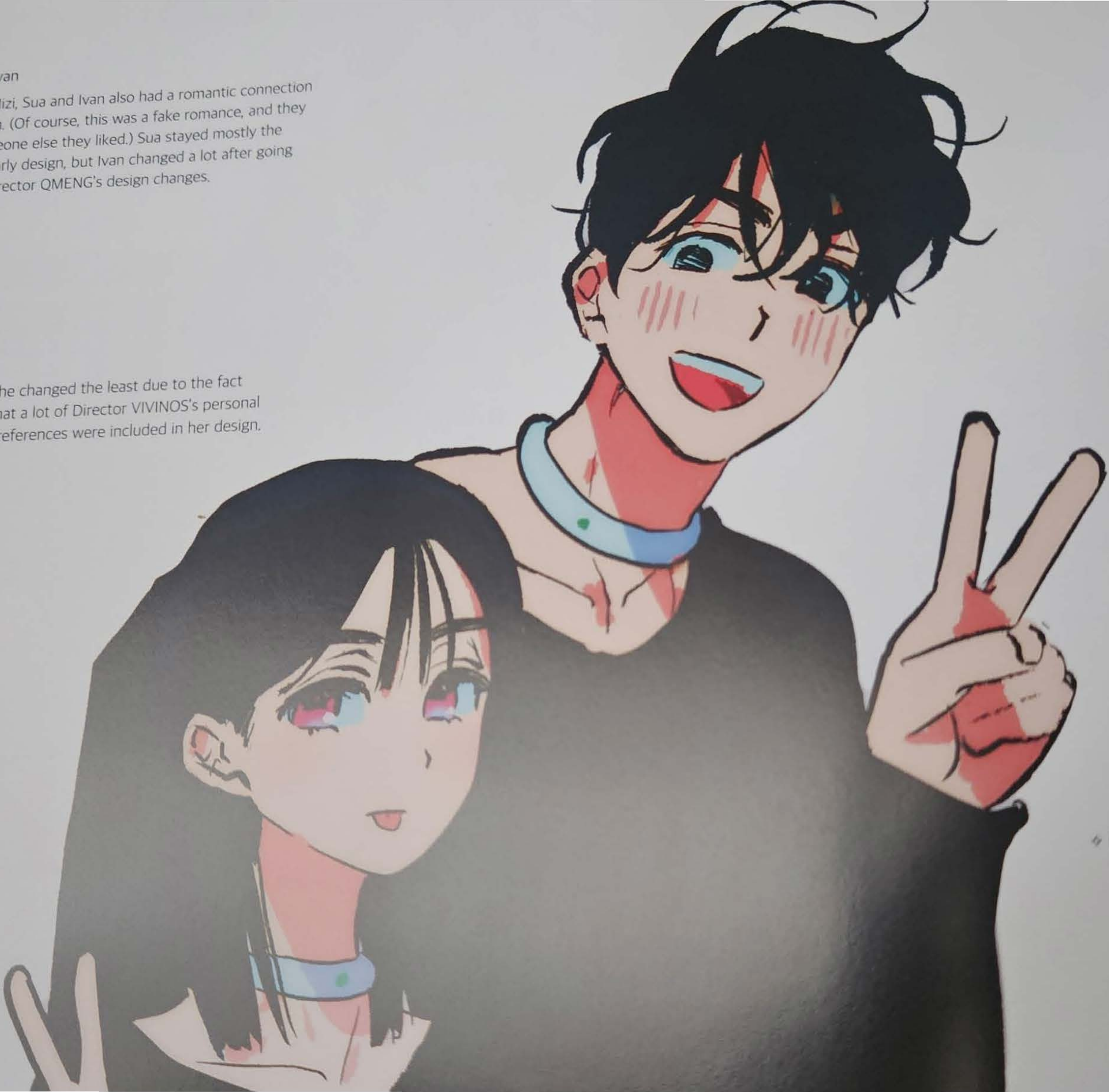


Initial Mizi & Till

- The current Till has a slender frame, but early Till was more muscular. Till liking Mizi was decided early on in the project.

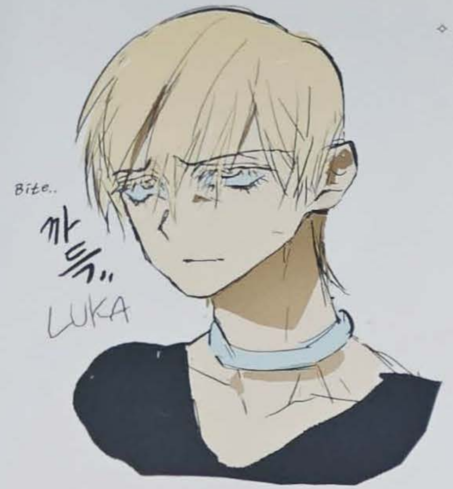
Initial Sua & Ivan

- Like Till and Mizi, Sua and Ivan also had a romantic connection between them. (Of course, this was a fake romance, and they both had someone else they liked.) Sua stayed mostly the same as her early design, but Ivan changed a lot after going through Co-Director QMENG's design changes.

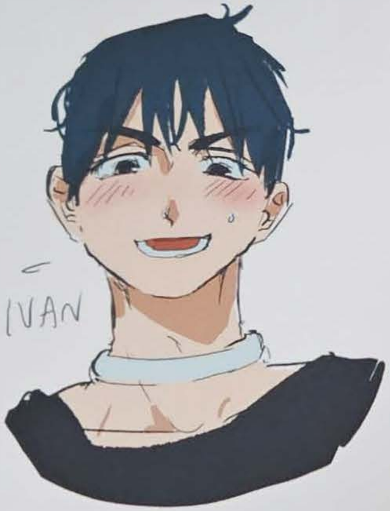


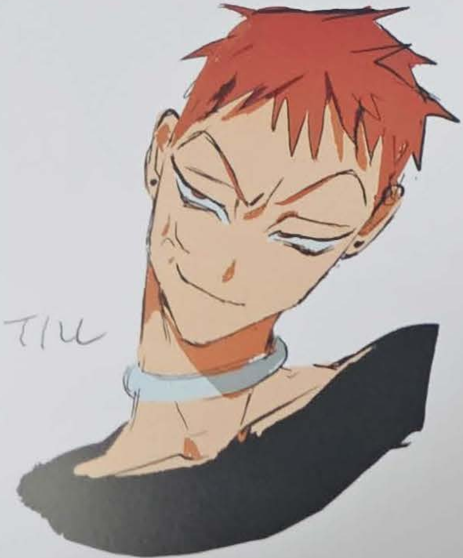
- She changed the least due to the fact that a lot of Director VIVINOS's personal preferences were included in her design.

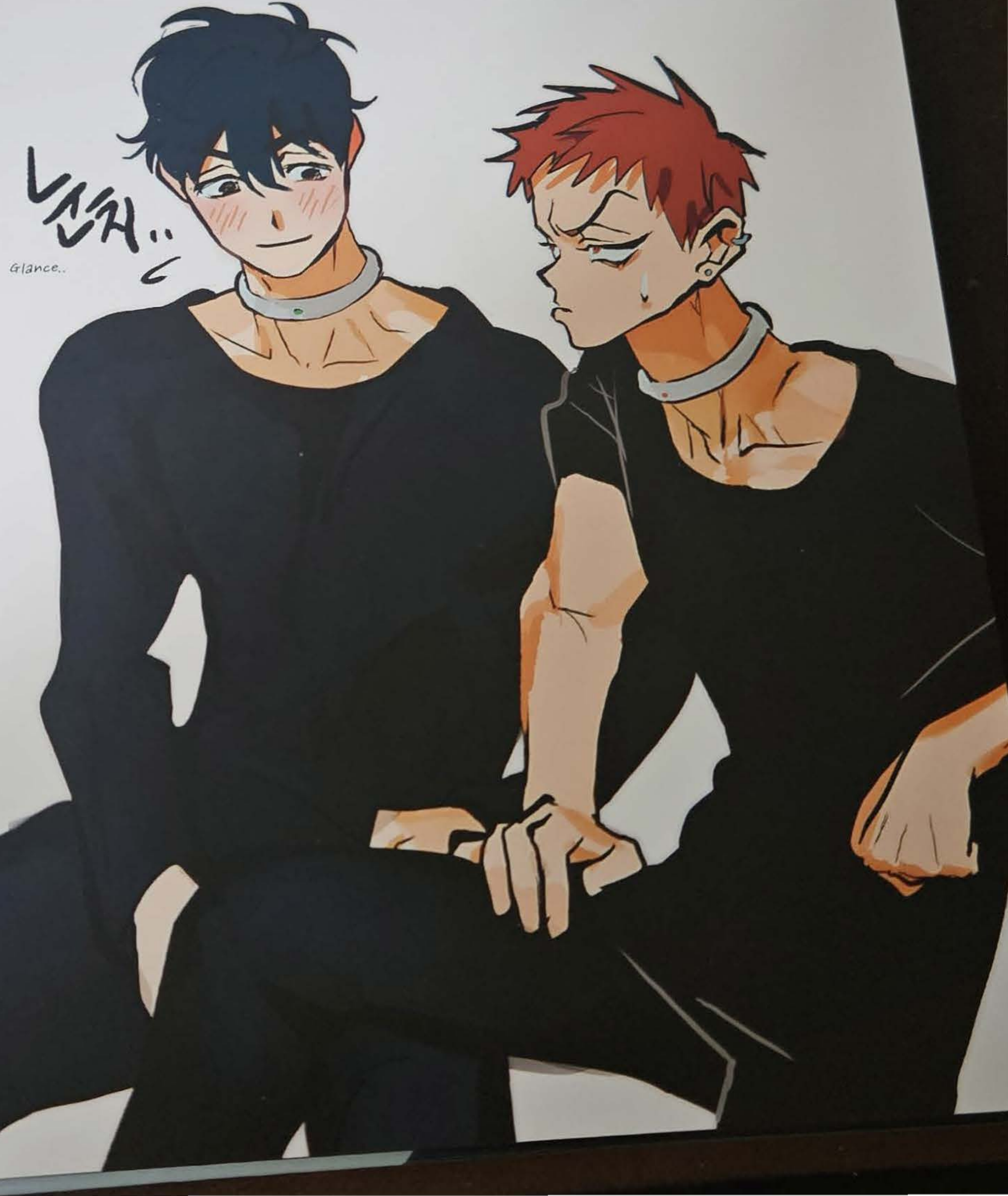
- Early Ivan was a kind "older brother" type character that you would see in a romance manhwa. He looked upbeat on the outside but on the inside was simply going through the motions of life and had no desire to keep living. His low self-confidence made him shift to appeal to whomever he was talking to.


Bite..
까득,,
LUKA

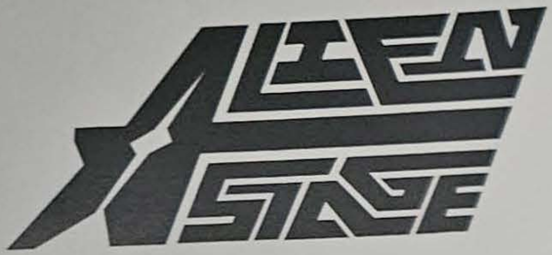
✧ Director VIVINOS's early versions of Till, Ivan, and Luka. They are noticeably more wild and rough.



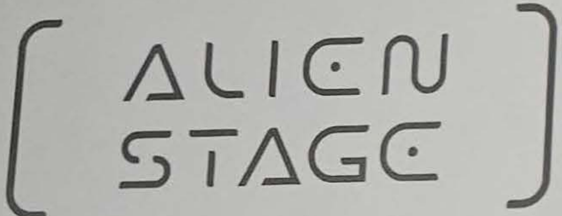




CHAPTER 1 | Design Source



MAIN LOGO


ALIEN
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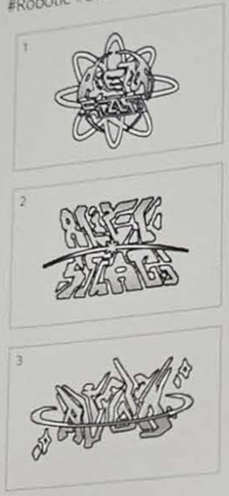
SUB LOGO

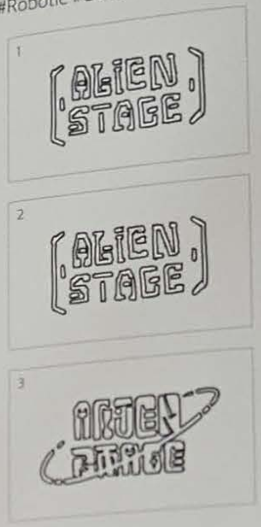
The *Alien Stage* logo was designed with two styles in mind: a flashy logo that could be used in a real audition program, and a simple logo that gave off sci-fi vibes. Because the aliens in the *Alien Stage* world are the humans, the typography of the logo was also designed to look alien.

1 Logo 1st Draft

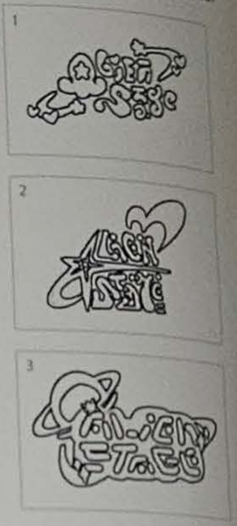
A. Robotic
#Robotic #Complicated #Sturdy



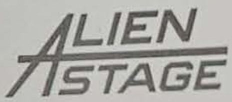
B. Robotic
#Robotic #Complicated #Sturdy


1
ALIEN STAGE
2
ALIEN STAGE
3

C. Cute
#Cute #Mysterious #Ethereal



2 Logo 2nd Draft


ALIEN
STAGE

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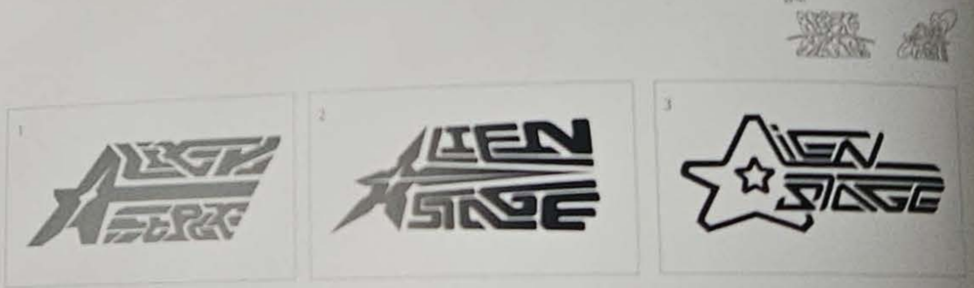

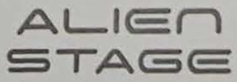
ALIEN
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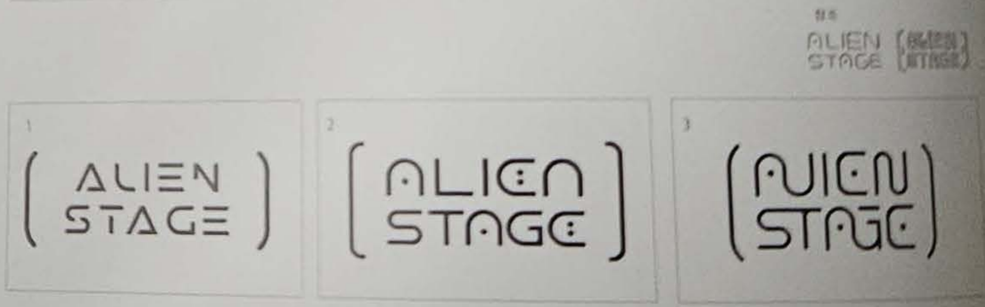
ALIEN
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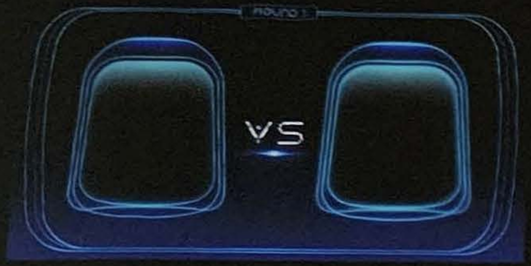
ALIEN STAGE
DESIGN SOURCE



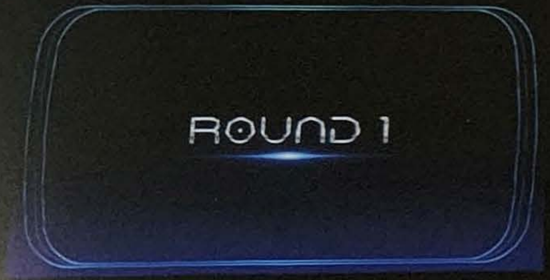
1:1 Bracket

ALIEN
STAGE

MAIN LOGO 3D (1)

ALIEN
STAGE

SUB LOGO 3D (1)



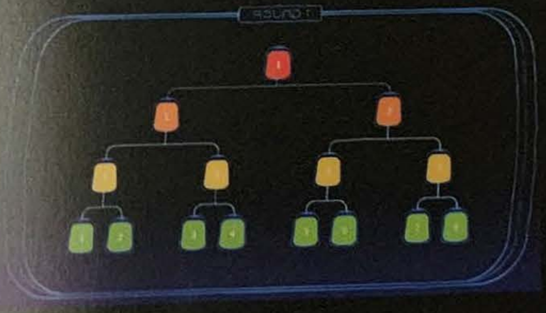
Round Image

ALIEN
STAGE

MAIN LOGO 3D (2)

ALIEN
STAGE

SUB LOGO 3D (2)



Full Bracket

ALIEN
STAGE

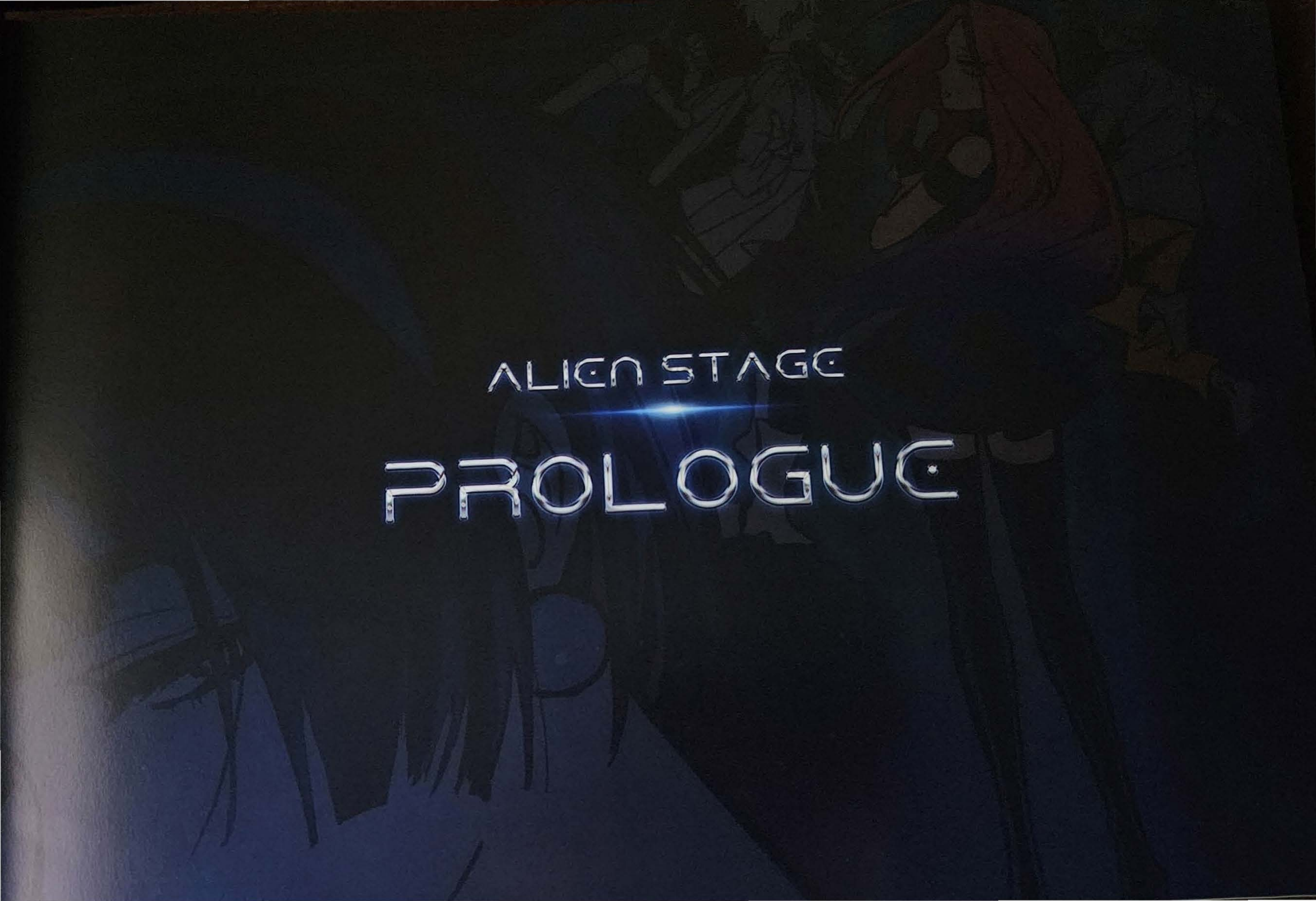
MAIN LOGO 3D (3)

ALIEN
STAGE

SUB LOGO 3D (3)

CHAPTER 2

BEHIND THE SCENES & COMMENTARY



ALIEN STAGE

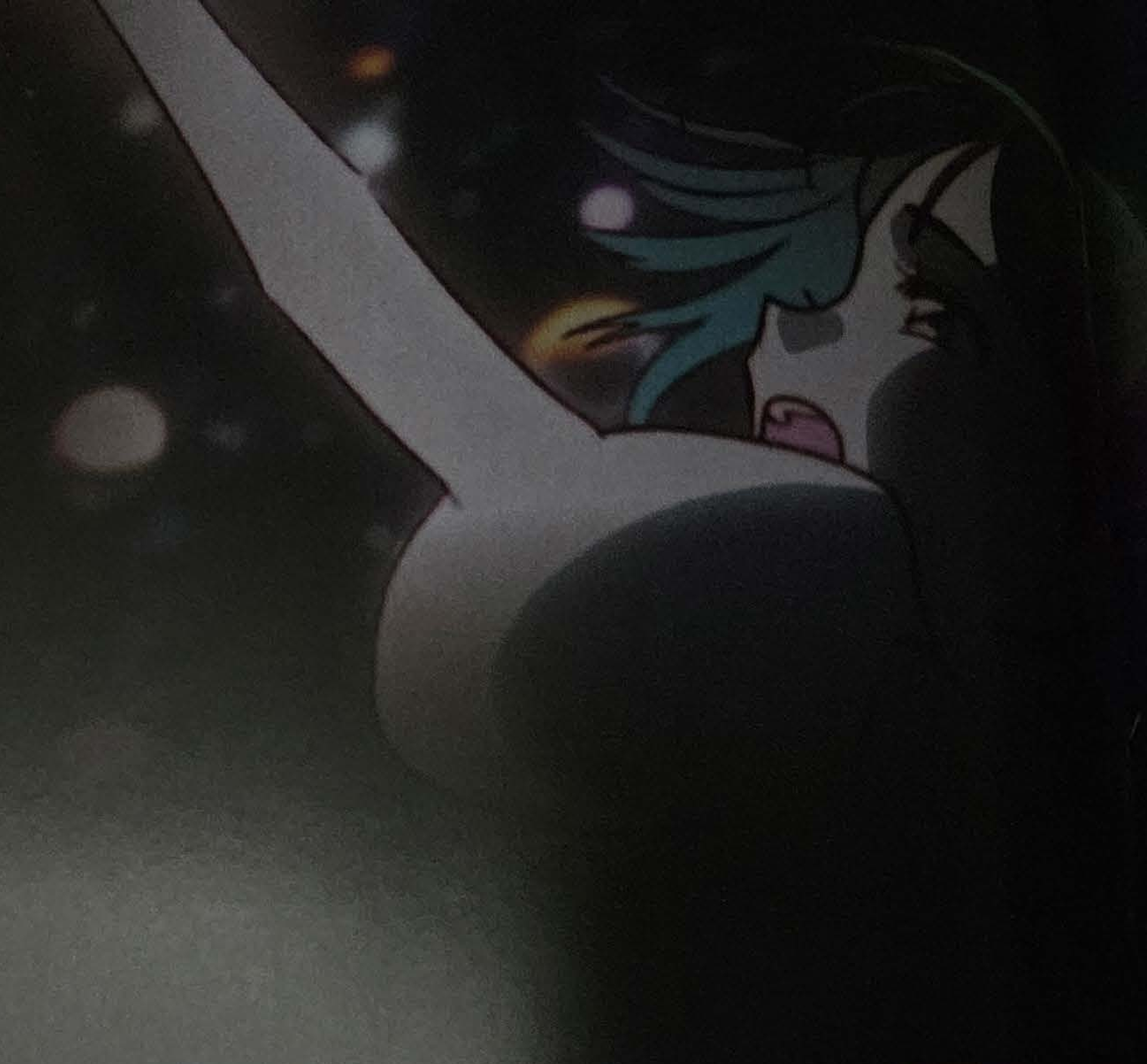
PROLOGUE

ALIEN STAGE

ALIEN STAGE PROLOGUE COMMENTARY

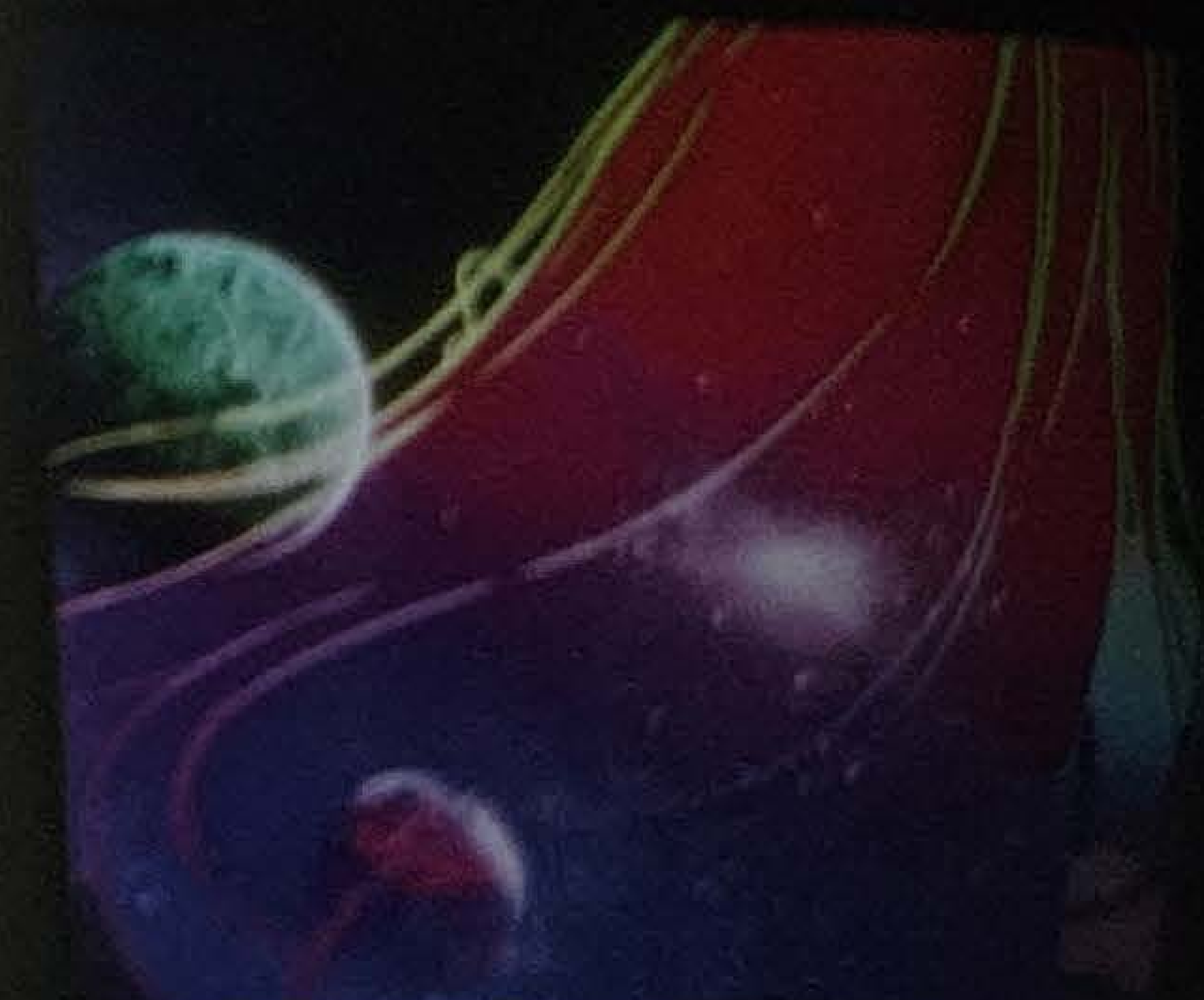
SWEET DREAM

Song by ClnaH (SUA)



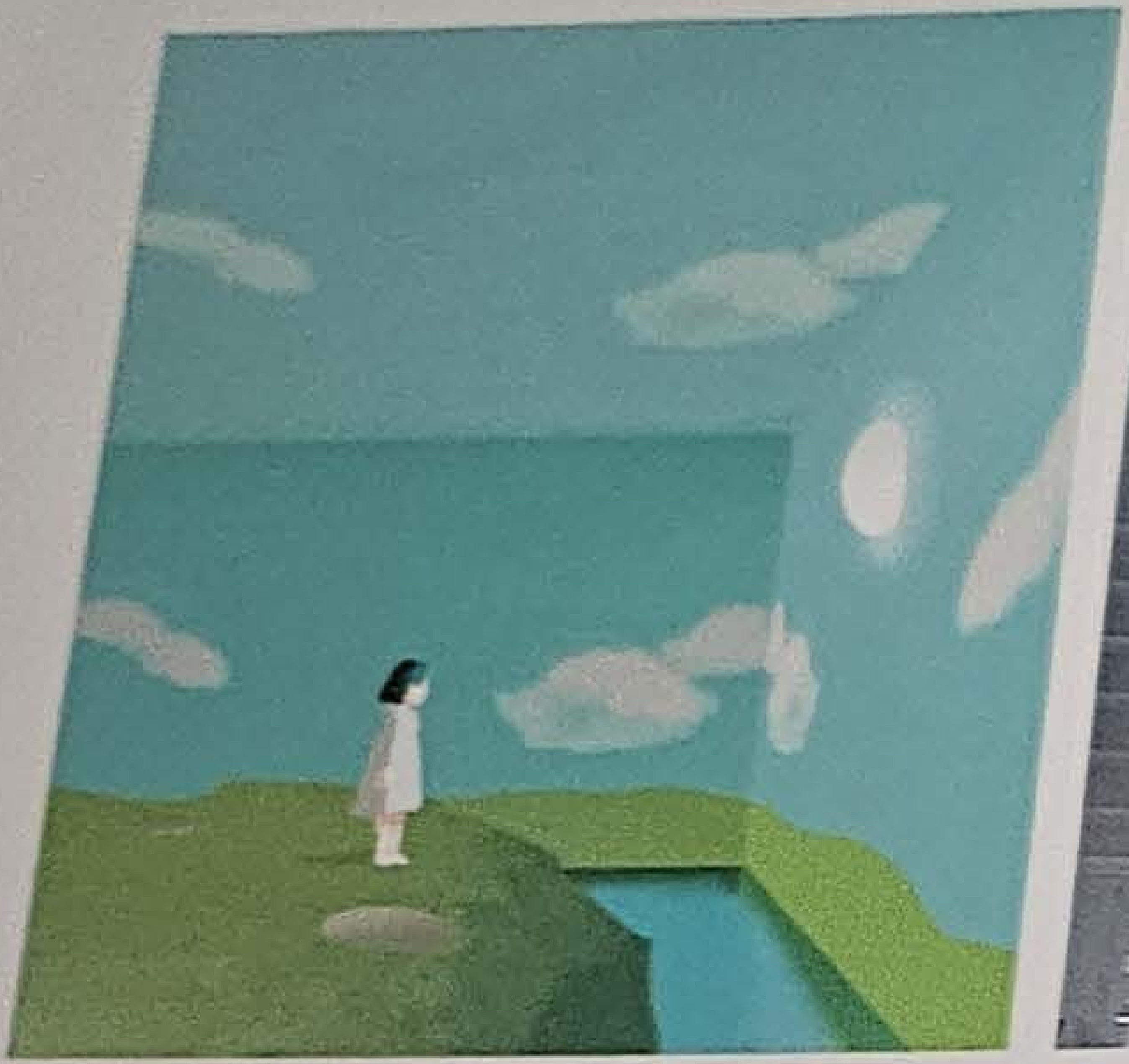
Director Commentary

Proudly displaying the atmosphere of the work, "SWEET DREAM" is *Alien Stage's* title track. This video is what lets people know that the story doesn't end in ROUND 1, and that this is a series with more story to come. We wanted to capture a dystopian and nostalgic end-of-a-century feeling. As new episodes come out and more stories about the characters are revealed, the condensed content within "SWEET DREAM" can be seen in a different light.

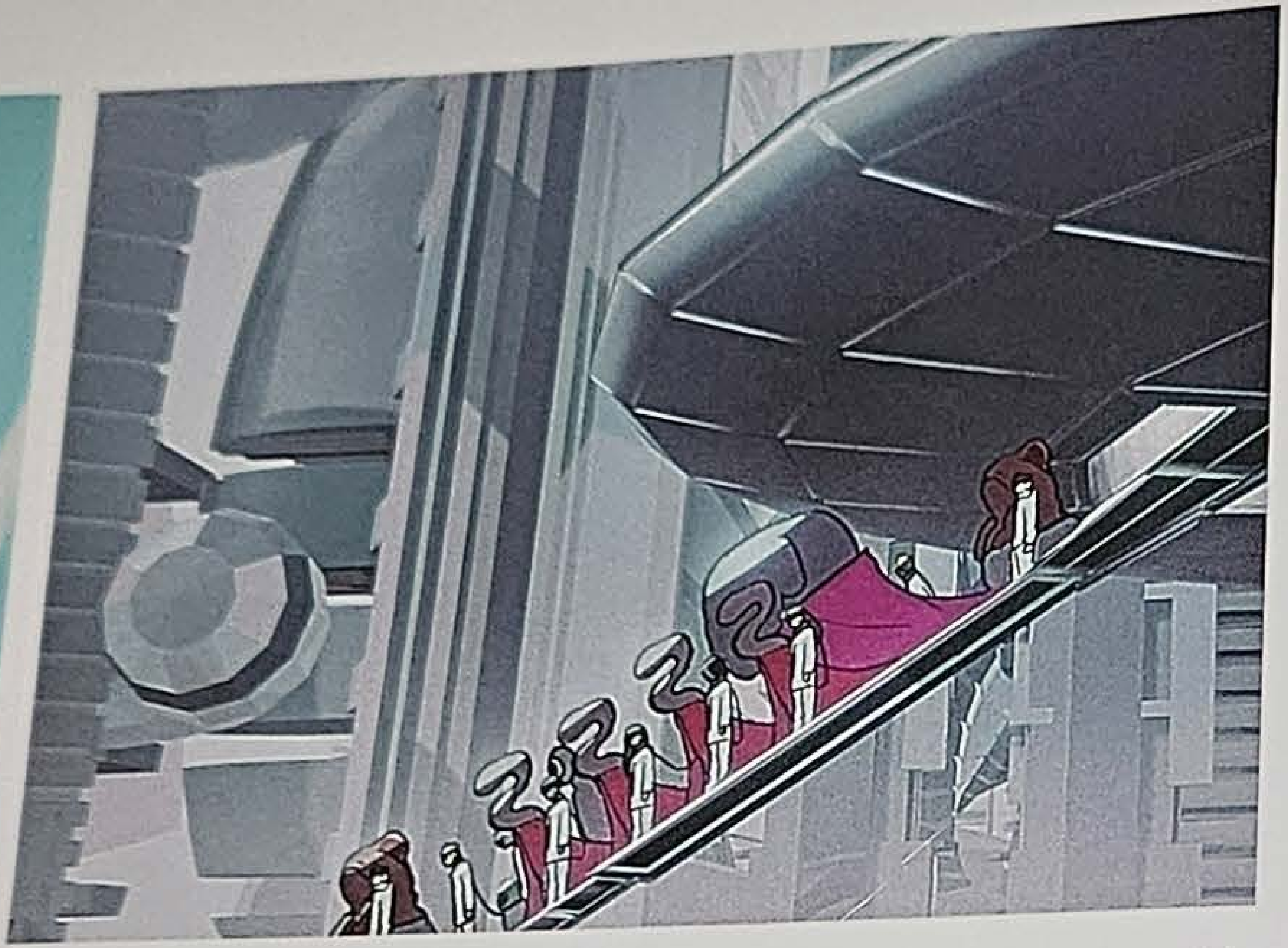


The *Alien Stage* prologue happened by chance?!

Alien Stage's prologue, "SWEET DREAM," was originally not planned. The song was created due to a miscommunication between the production team. However, the song inspired the directors so much that they decided to make a video for it.



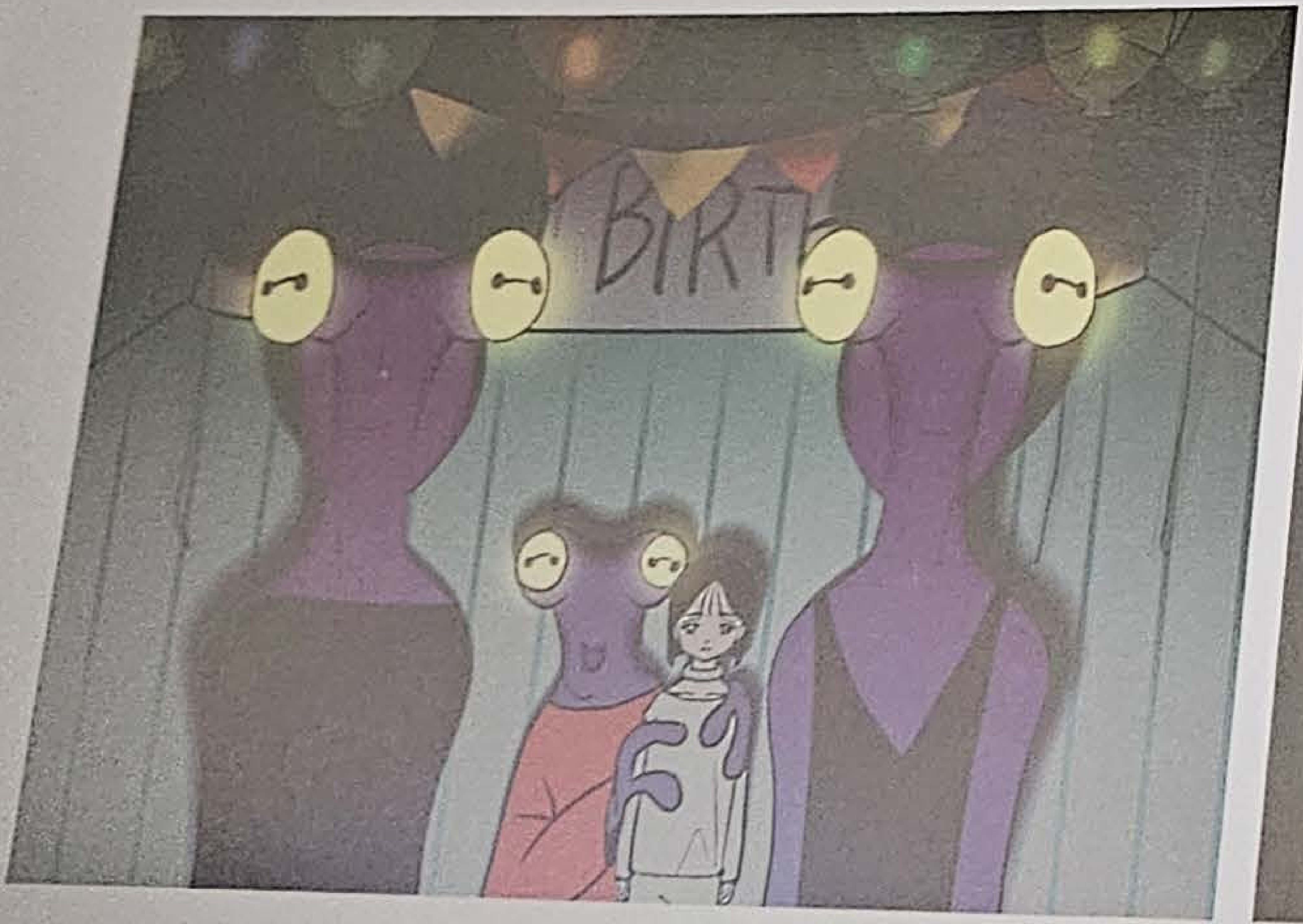
▲ Anakt Garden



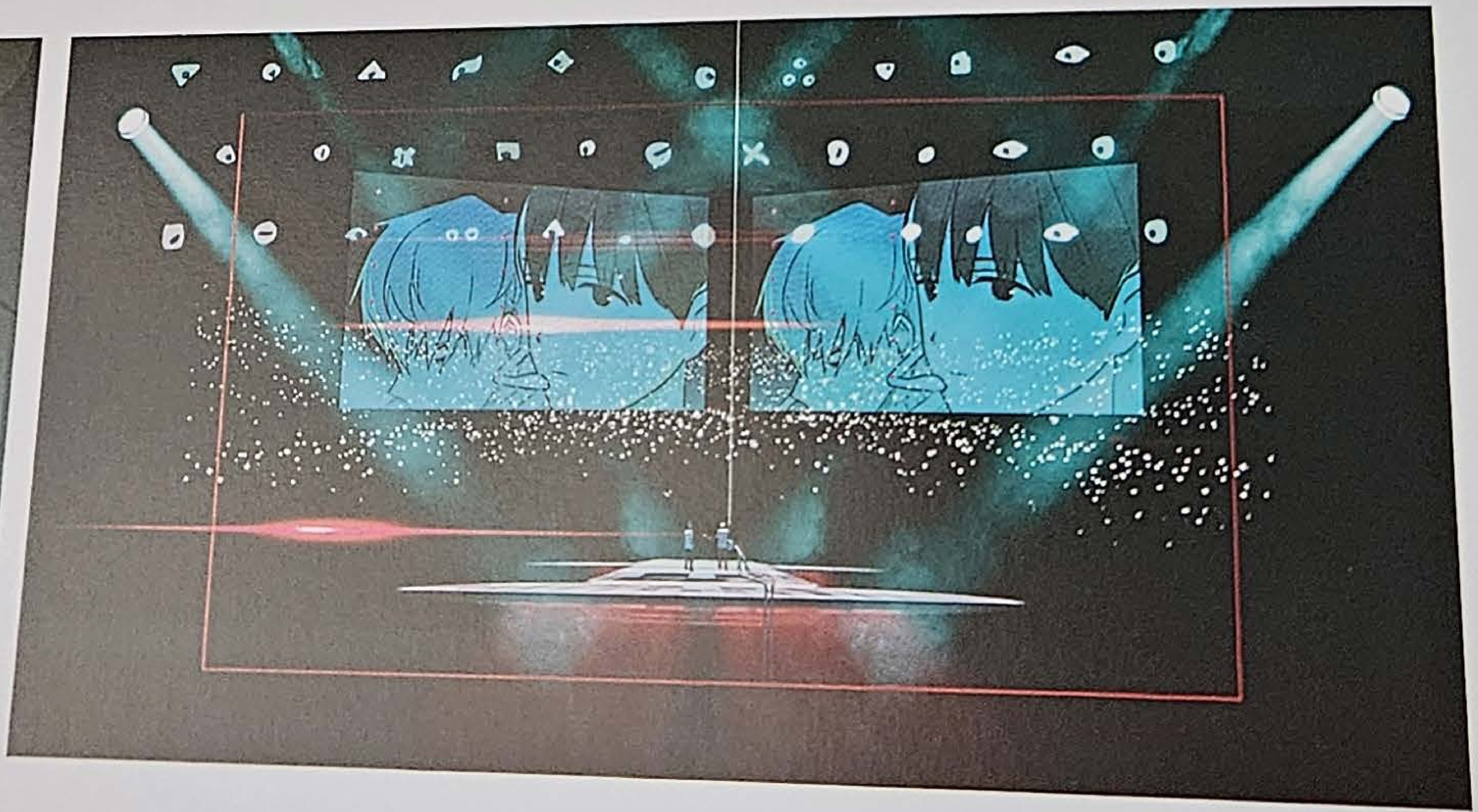
▲ Segyein and pet humans: depicting pet humans under Segyein ownership

Early Worldbuilding Concept Board

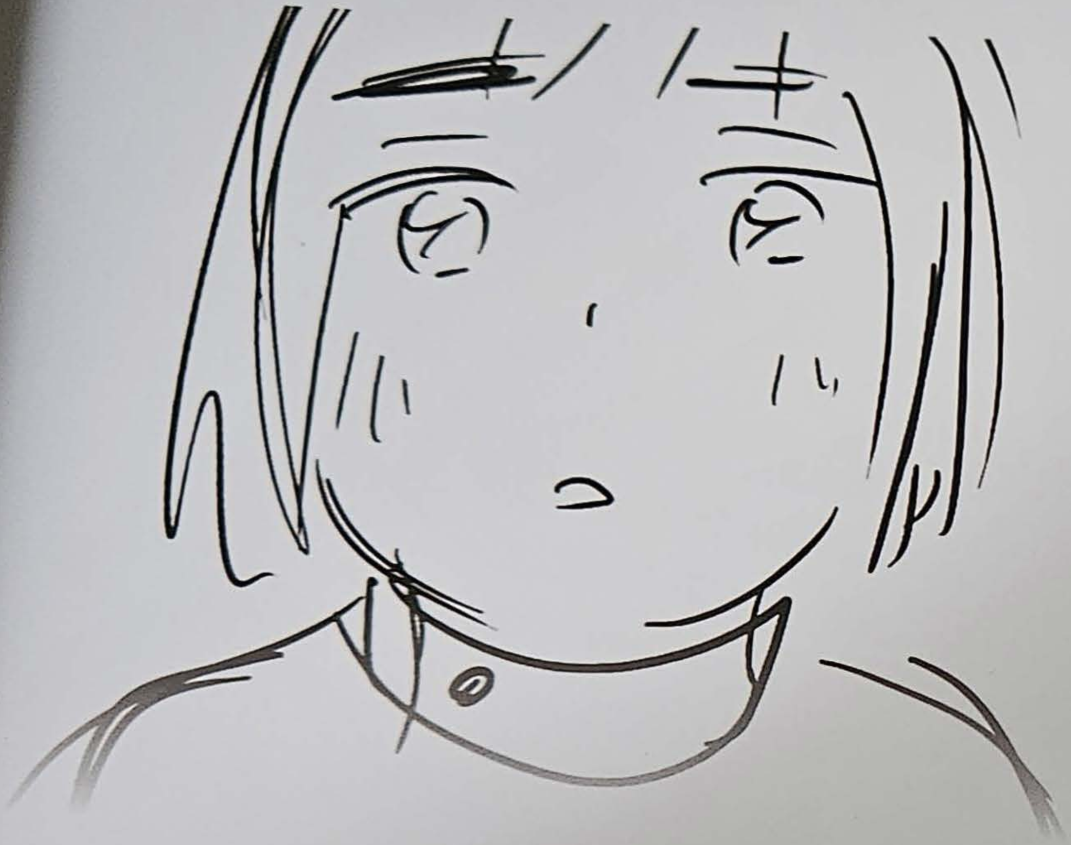
Drafts from early worldbuilding concept boards. There are elements that were changed and expanded on as the series went on.



▲ Sua's birthday party (early draft)



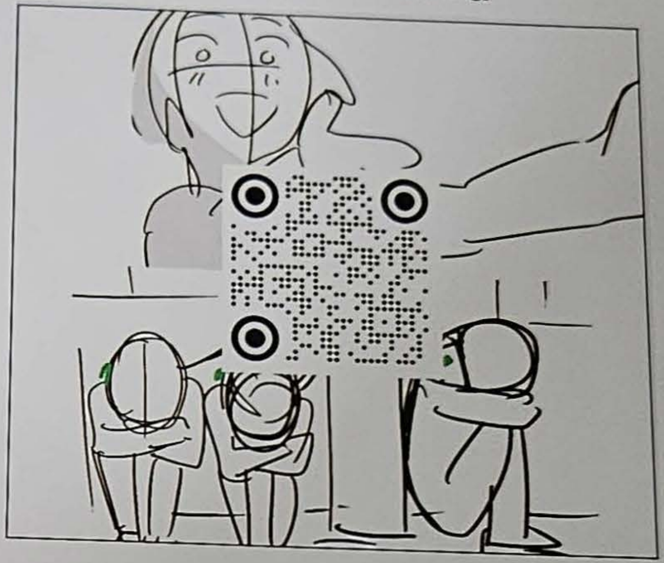
▲ Stage



Initial Concept

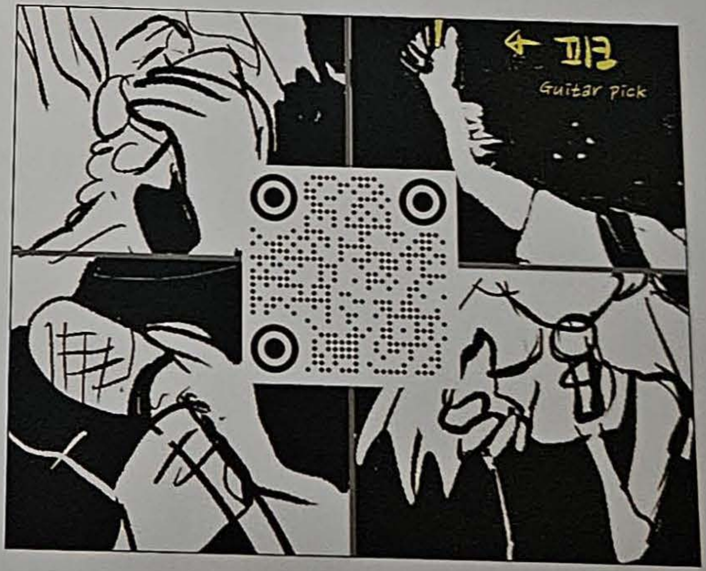
The early storyboard from Co-Director QMENG was more focused on worldbuilding, and it followed Sua's point of view with her as the main vocals. Later, Director VIVINOS changed the storyboard to introduce six contestants, leading to the creation of the current "SWEET DREAM."

[Earlier Storyboard: Character < Worldbuilding]

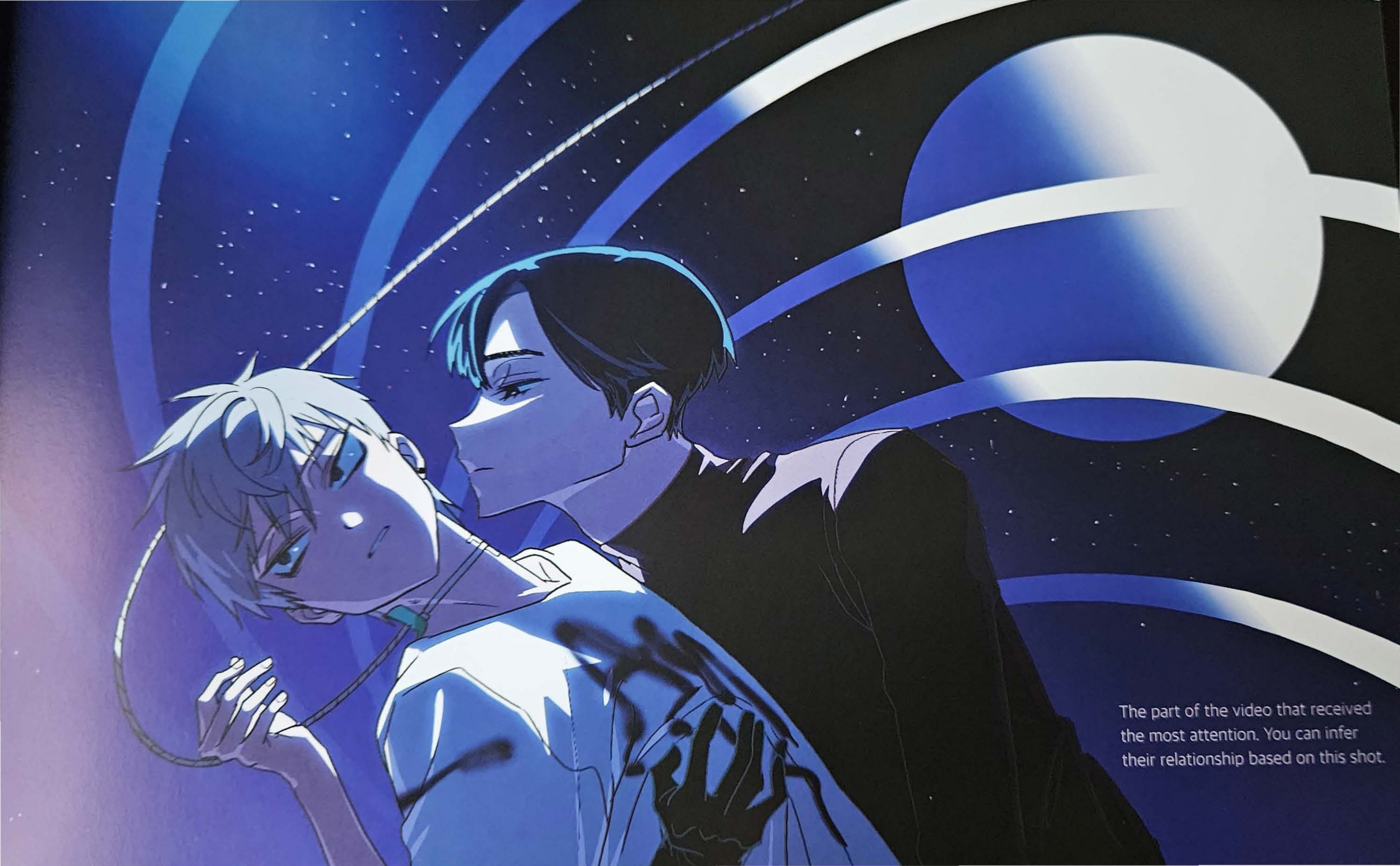


Depicted the world of *Alien Stage* through Sua's point of view.

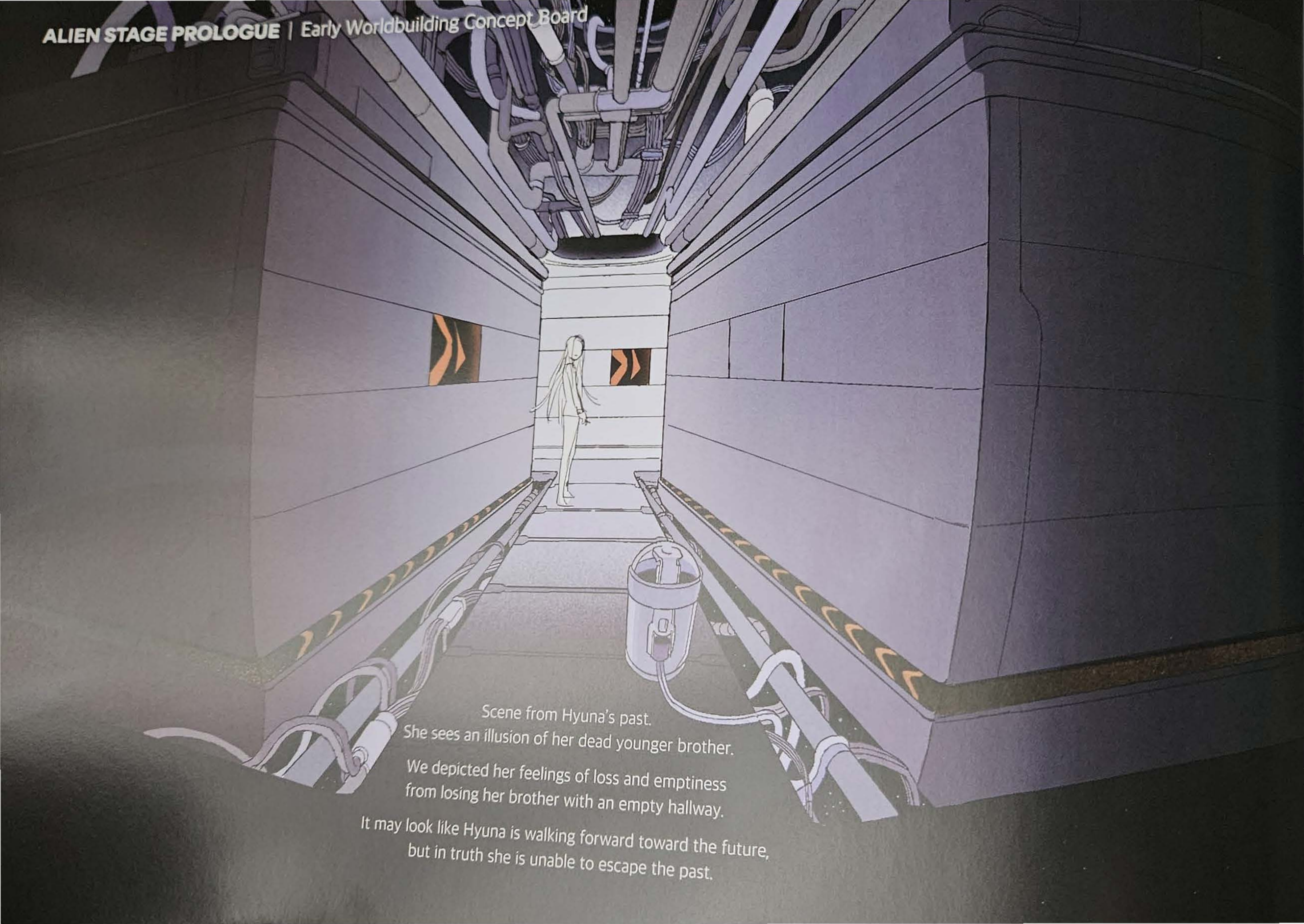
[Final Storyboard: Character > Worldbuilding]



Styled like *Alien Stage*'s opening. All six characters appear.



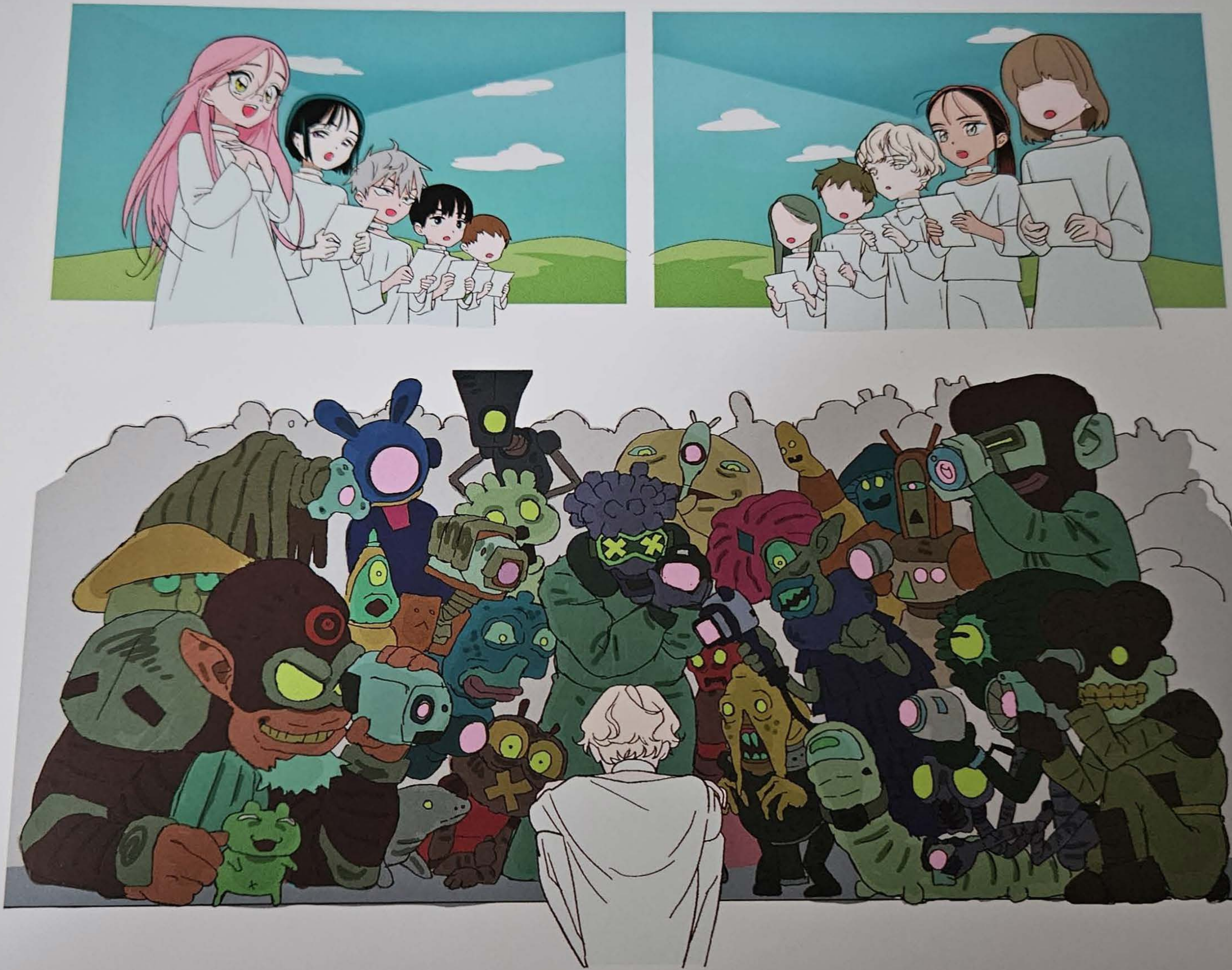
The part of the video that received the most attention. You can infer their relationship based on this shot.



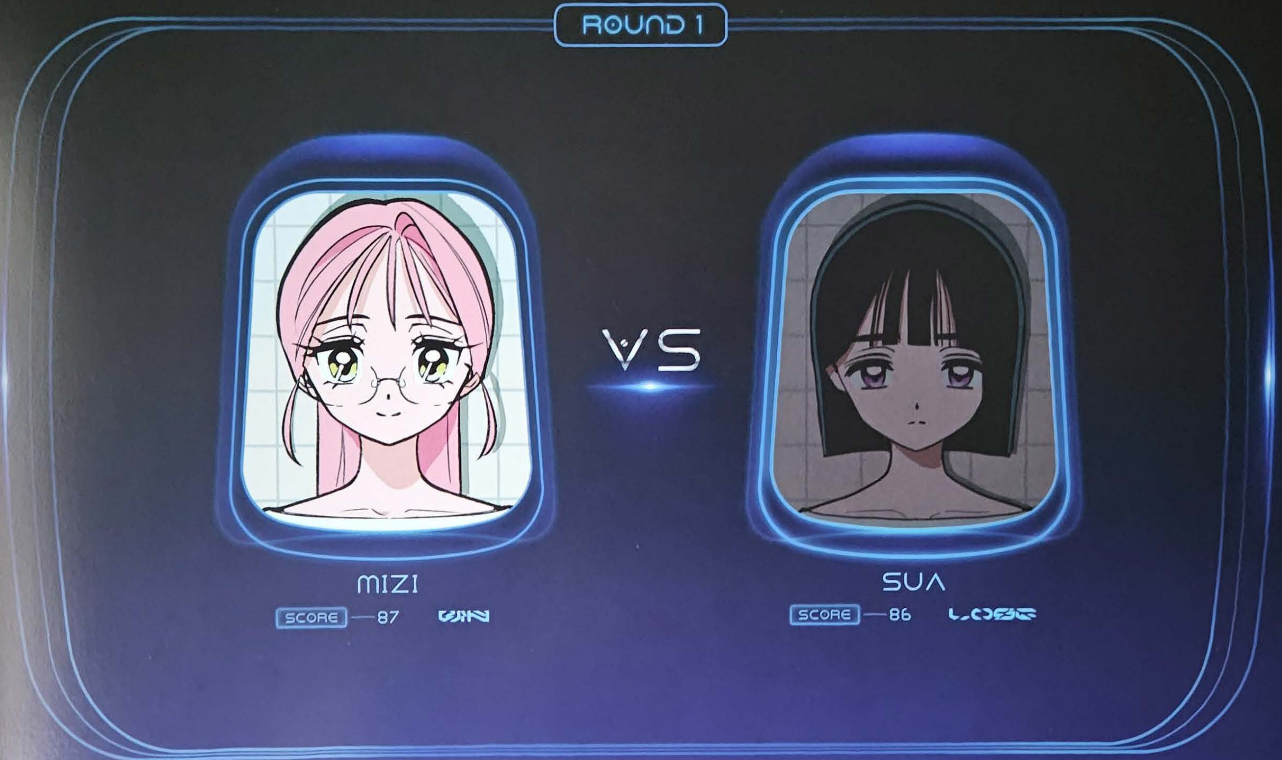
Scene from Hyuna's past.
She sees an illusion of her dead younger brother.

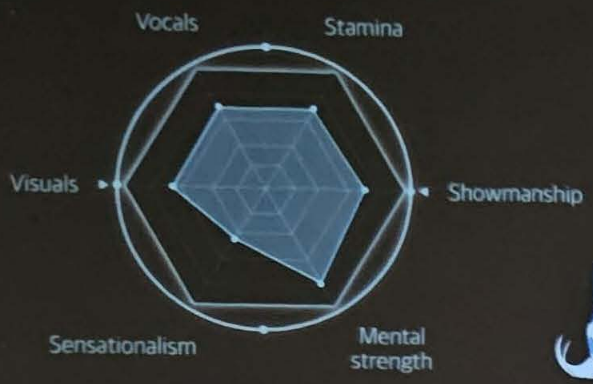
We depicted her feelings of loss and emptiness
from losing her brother with an empty hallway.

It may look like Hyuna is walking forward toward the future,
but in truth she is unable to escape the past.



ROUND 1


ROUND 1
VS
MIZI
SCORE — 87 WIN
SUA
SCORE — 86 LOSE



CHARACTER COMMENT

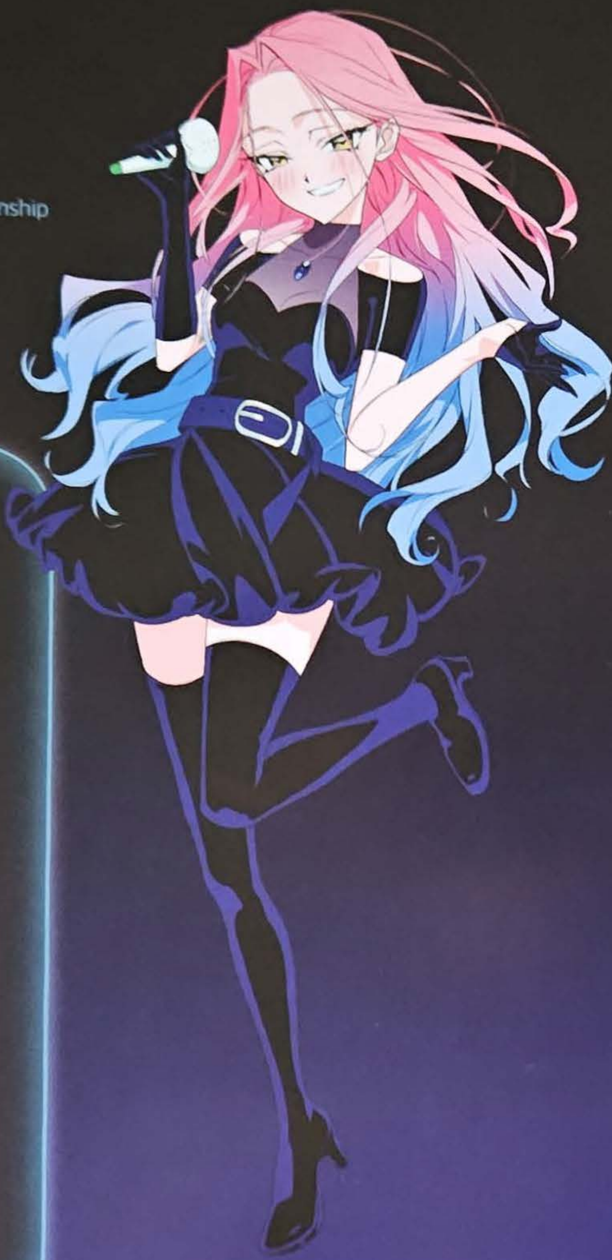
#Flashy #Energetic

#HasPotential #ESFP

PRO FILE

Birthday	0820
Born	Human Multi-Shop
Age	22
Height/Weight	5'3" / 110lbs
Blood Type	RH+O
ID Number	020205
Affiliation	Anakt Garden 50th Class
Owner	Shine
Likes	Sua, Anakt Artificial Flowers, Toothbrushes
Dislikes	Vegetables, Studying
Talent	Scary Stories
MBTI	ESFP

Always positive and energetic, she has a charm that draws people in and is constantly the center of attention. However, caution is advised as she lacks tact and can react in unexpected ways.



Human Relationships

Sua

Closeness 100% ▸ 1st ◂

The irreplaceable other half of my soul; I love her so, so *so* much! I think Sua and I are basically one. My god, my universe ♥

Ivan

Closeness 75% ▸ 2nd ◂

A cool friend who's got a smile like a prince! Everyone looks up to him! He's always kindly teaching me things I don't know.

Hyuna

Closeness 60% ▸ 3rd ◂

She's a chill and playful person, but it feels like she's hurting deep inside. I guess there must be a story behind it... The same goes for me now too.

Till

Closeness 30% ▸ 4th ◂

My artistic friend who looks the coolest when he's focused on his work! I want to be closer friends with him, but it feels like he's avoiding me... Did I do something wrong...?

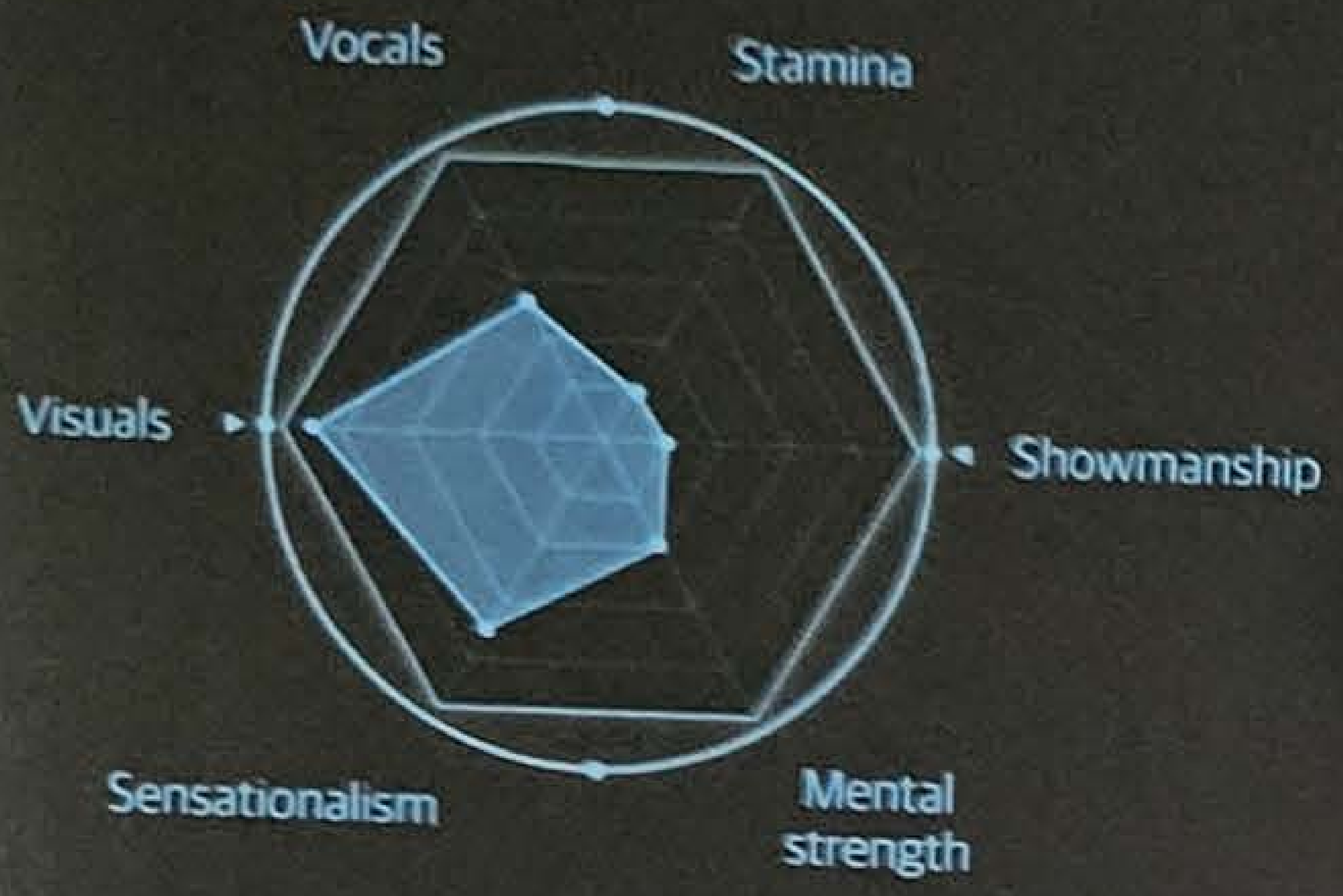
Personality

Sociable

As someone who grew up with relative freedom, she doesn't discriminate between Segyein and humans when it comes to getting close and making friends. She also doesn't hide her true feelings when interacting with others, and her earnest and honest nature touches the hearts of those she speaks to. Her positive energy truly shines as an idol who has to interact with a large number of people.

Has Potential

Mizi briefly broke down after the tragedy of ROUND 1, but she pushes forward despite everything. She doesn't look away from her despair and hopeless situation and instead keeps them close to her heart. After losing Sua, Mizi is quickly growing and learning to think and take responsibility for her own actions.

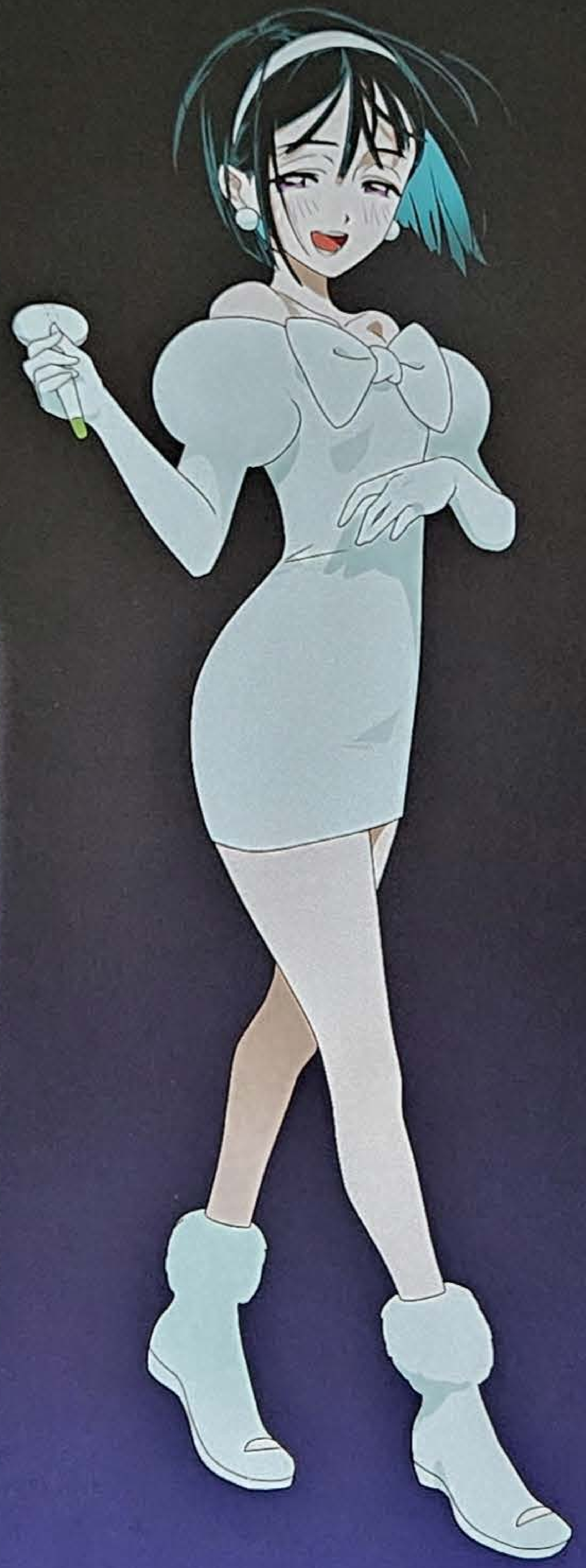


CHARACTER COMMENT

#Elegant #Secretive #Savior #INTP

PRO FILE	
Birthday	1222
Born	Human Multi-Shop
Age	23
Height/Weight	5'2" / 106lbs
Blood Type	RH+B
ID Number	020211
Affiliation	Anakt Garden 50th Class
Owner	Nigeh
Likes	Mizi, Singing, Stars
Dislikes	Unfamiliar Things
Talent	Quick Mental Arithmetics
MBTI	INTP

Her cold, secretive nature invokes curiosity within the Segyein. She has a lot of hardcore fans, so the general opinion of her fandom must be taken closely into account when producing for her.



Human Relationships

Closeness 100% ▸ 1st ◂

Mizi, my love. She's too good for me. I wonder if my feelings are causing her pain? I'm sorry.

Closeness 1%

What a loser. He keeps talking to me and pushing my boundaries. I'm cautious towards him.

Closeness 1%

The way he keeps loitering around Mizi annoys me. I don't really have any other thoughts on him.

Personality

Cold

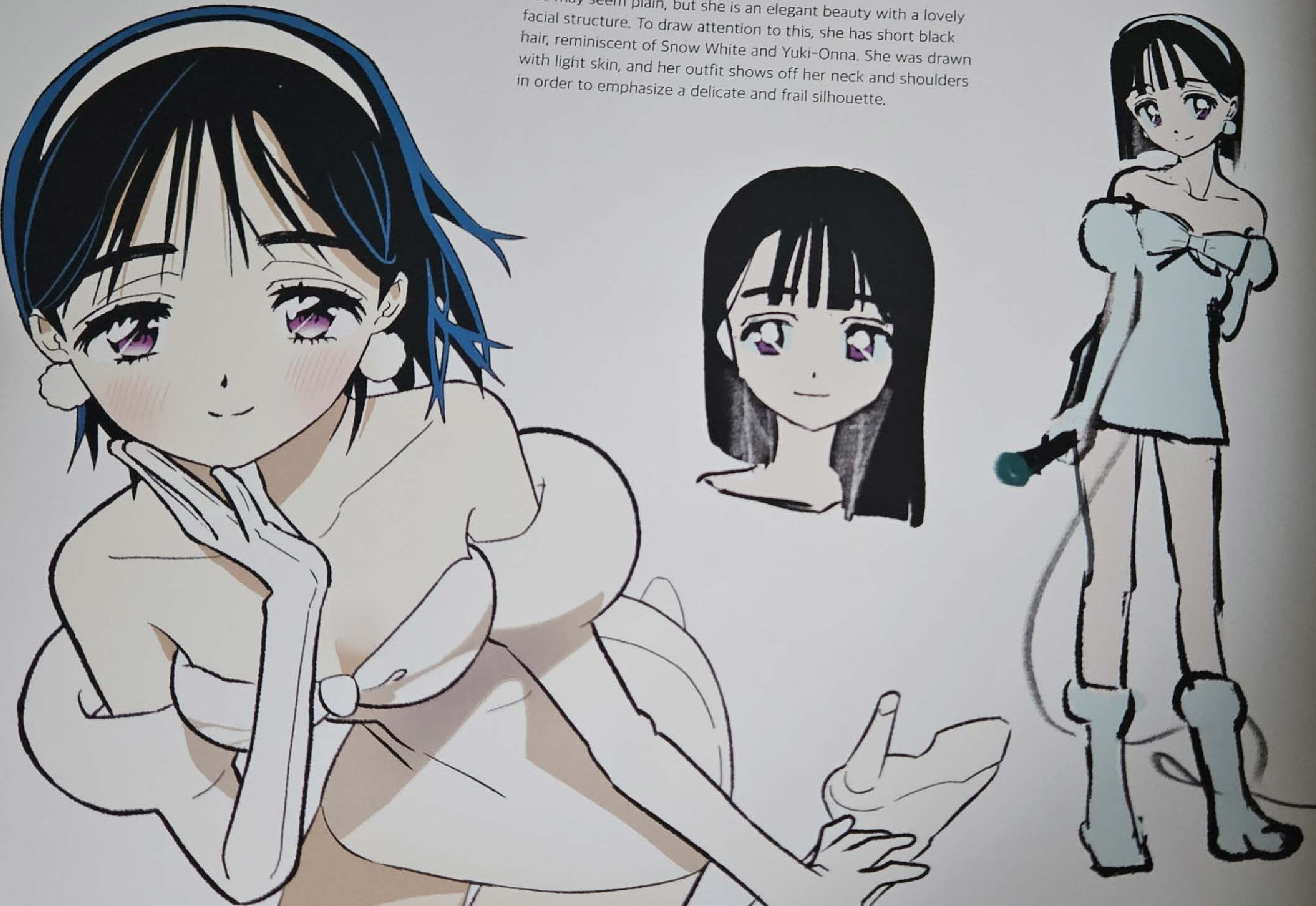
She is excessively uncaring and cold toward others. Her weak psyche and avoidant nature causes her to fear getting hurt to an extreme degree. She is cautious about letting anyone other than Mizi past the wall she has built around herself.

Passive

Sua's guardian was a showy influencer and model who treated their pet humans like trophies. They raised their pets to become prettily clothed dolls who don't talk back. They are most proud and ambitious with their fourth pet Sua and sent her to Alien Stage with high expectations. Sua is simply following along with these expectations.

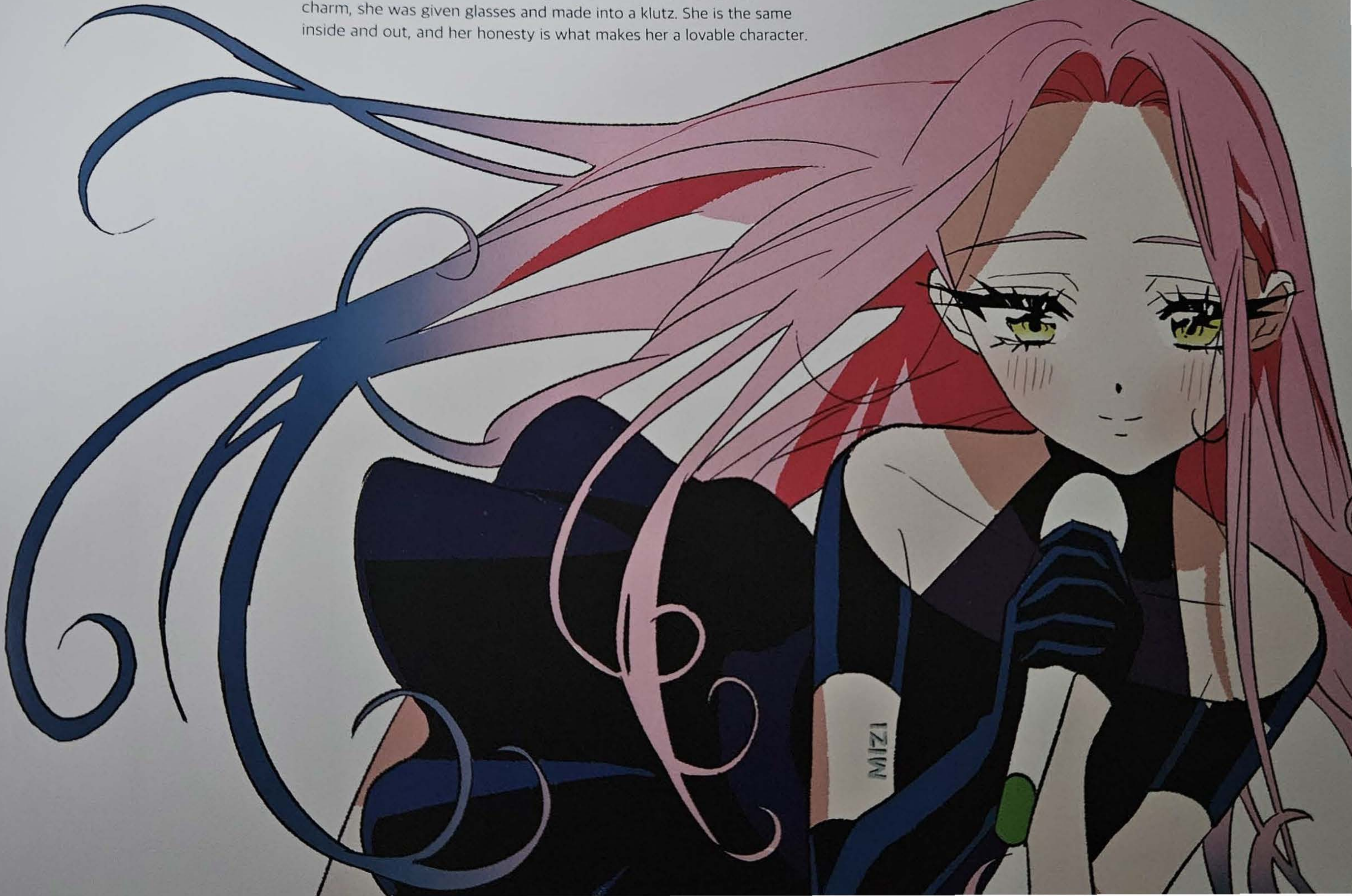
Sua

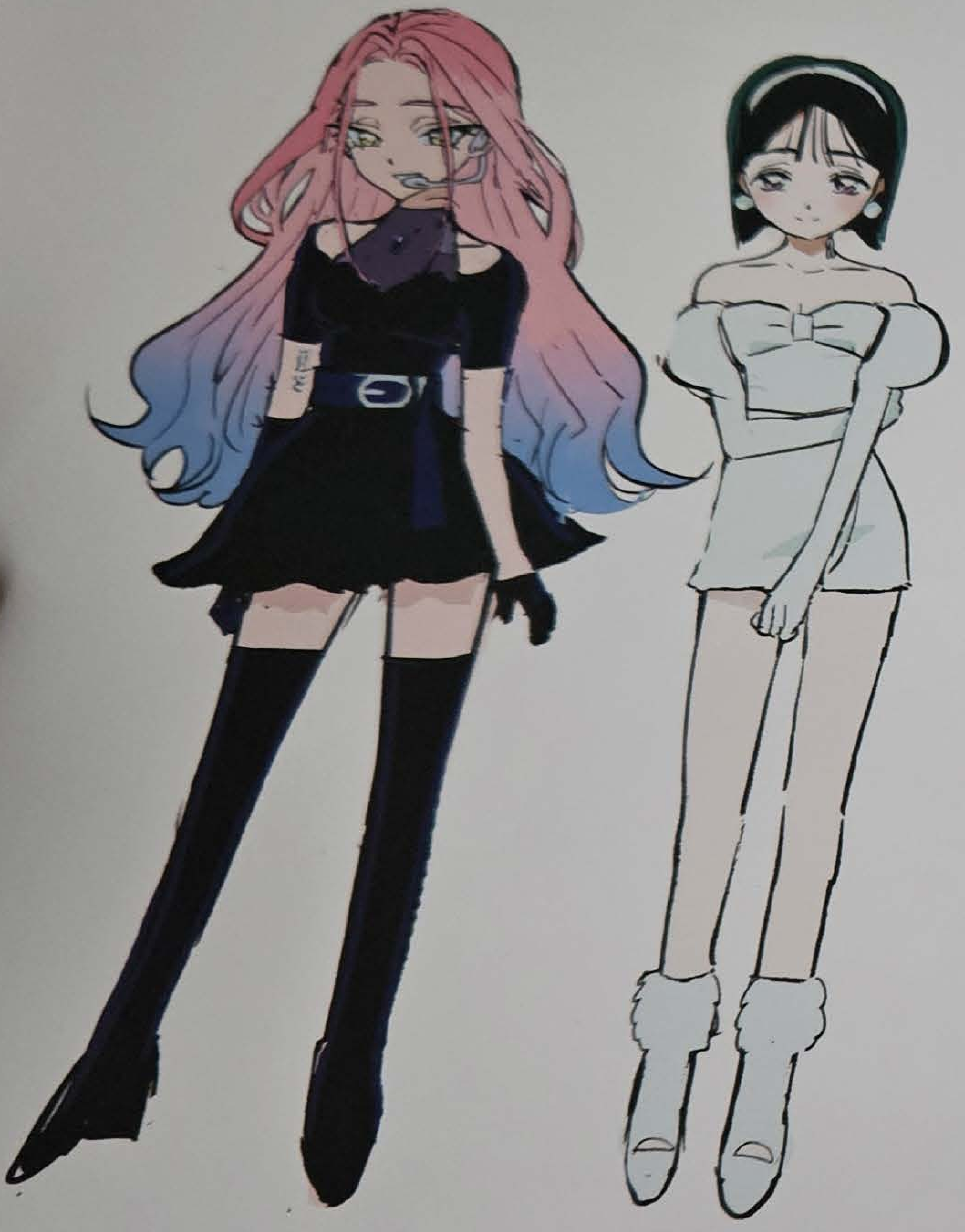
Sua may seem plain, but she is an elegant beauty with a lovely facial structure. To draw attention to this, she has short black hair, reminiscent of Snow White and Yuki-Onna. She was drawn with light skin, and her outfit shows off her neck and shoulders in order to emphasize a delicate and frail silhouette.



Mizi

Unlike Sua, Mizi is more of a flashy beauty who gives off an extroverted and vibrant aura. To give her a sense of unexpected charm, she was given glasses and made into a klutz. She is the same inside and out, and her honesty is what makes her a lovable character.

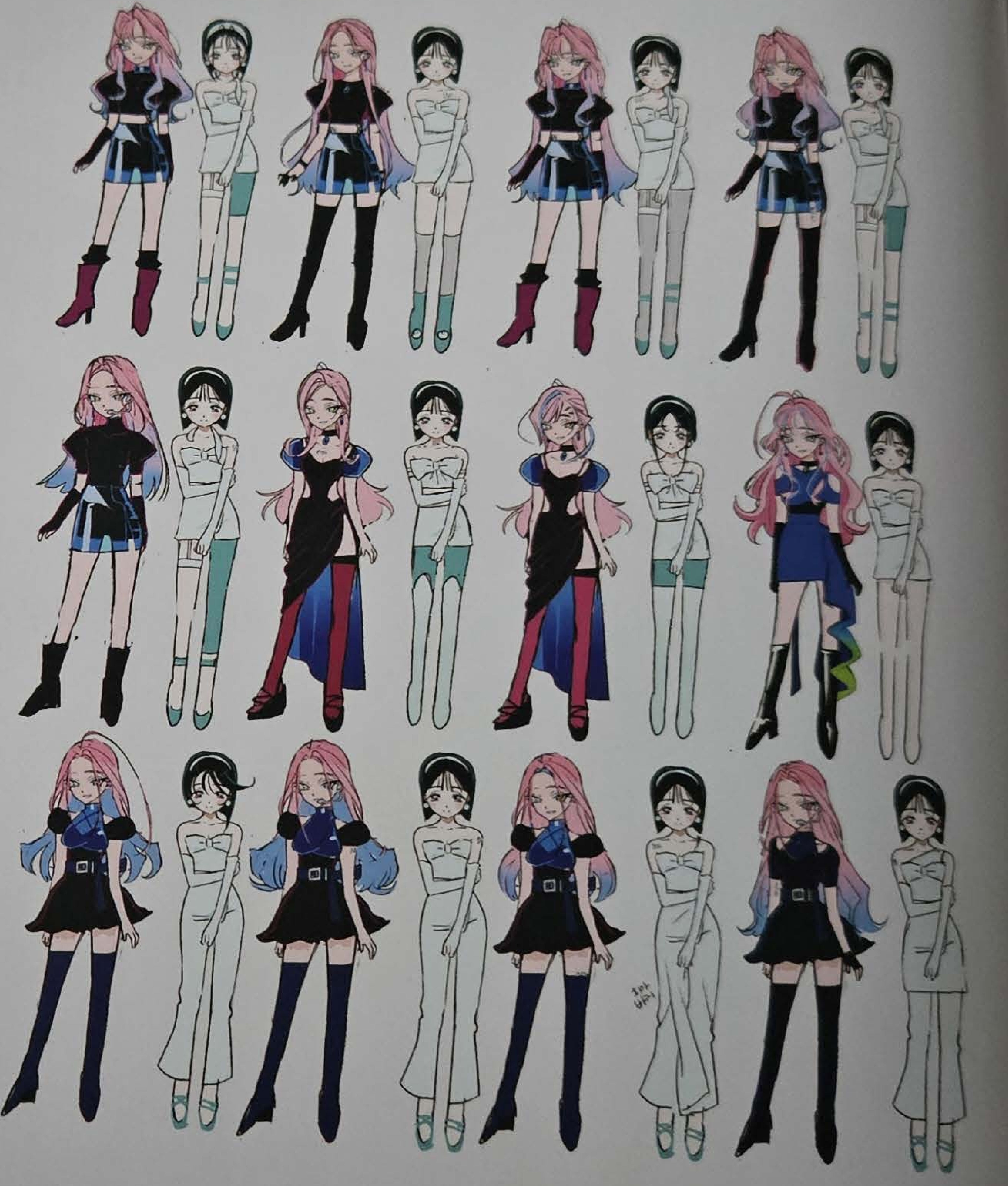




▲ Final Design

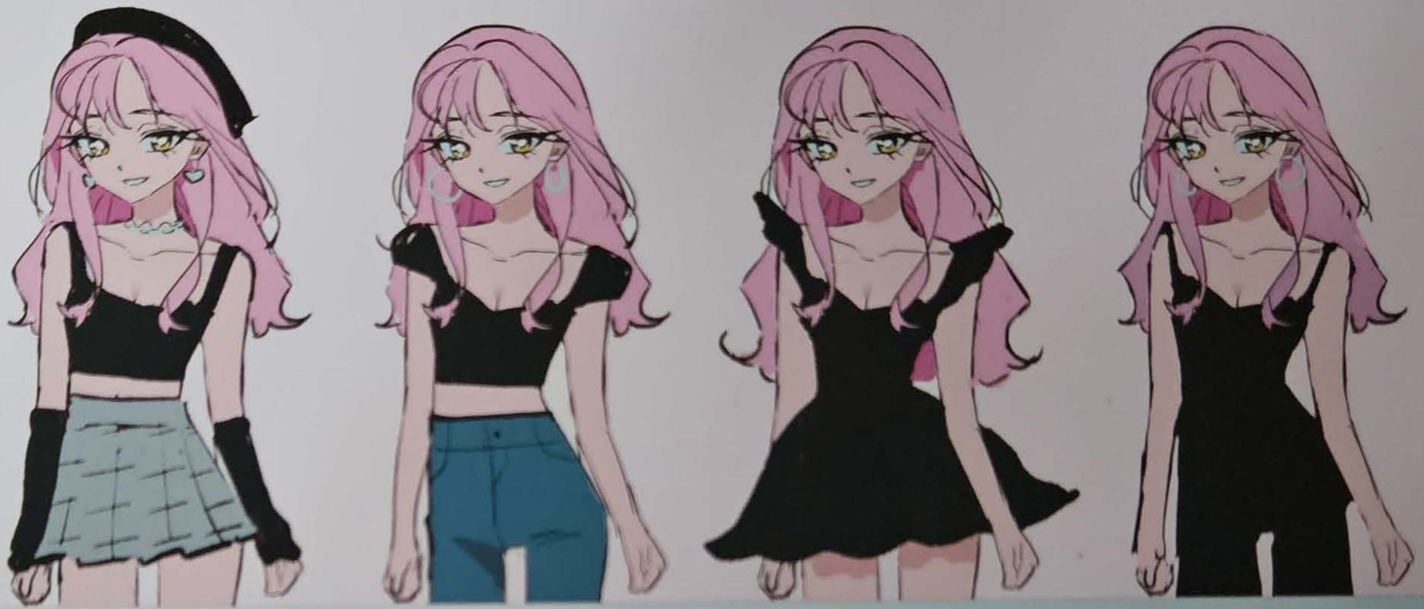
These stage outfits were designed with "sci-fi idol" vibes in mind. We also designed them to feel like K-POP idols.

Outfit Drafts



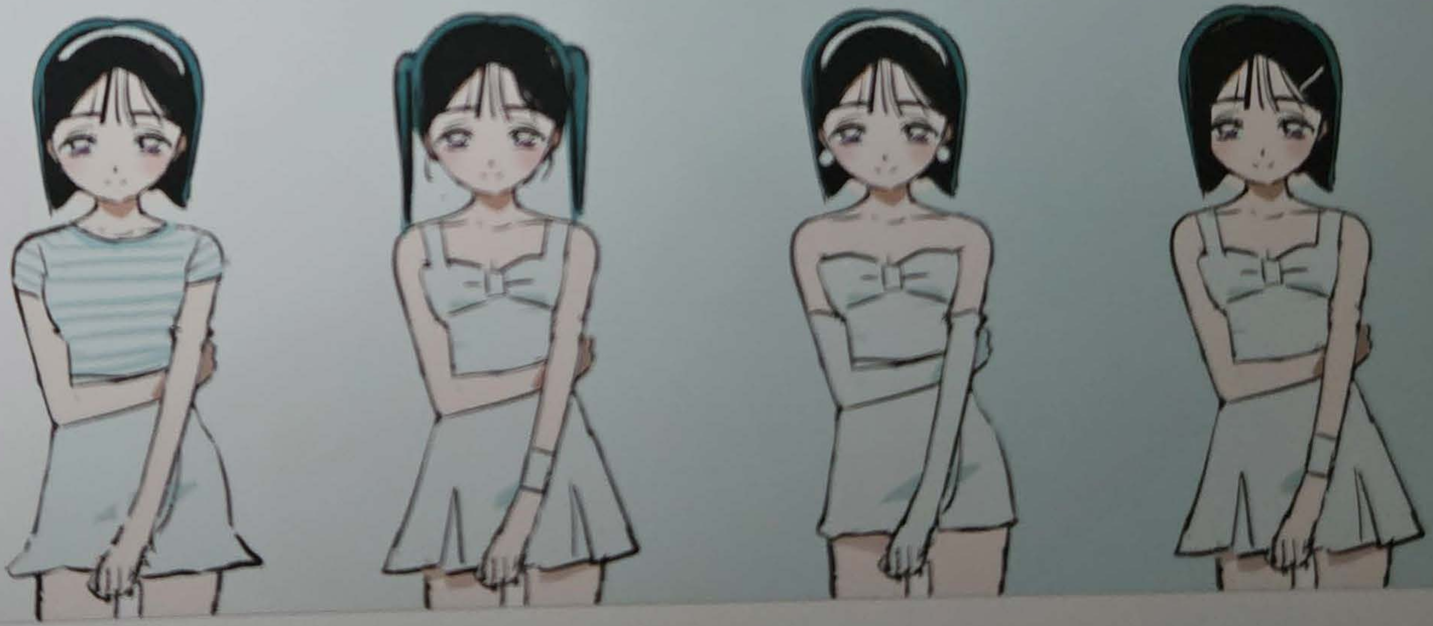
Mizi Outfit Draft (Modern ver.)

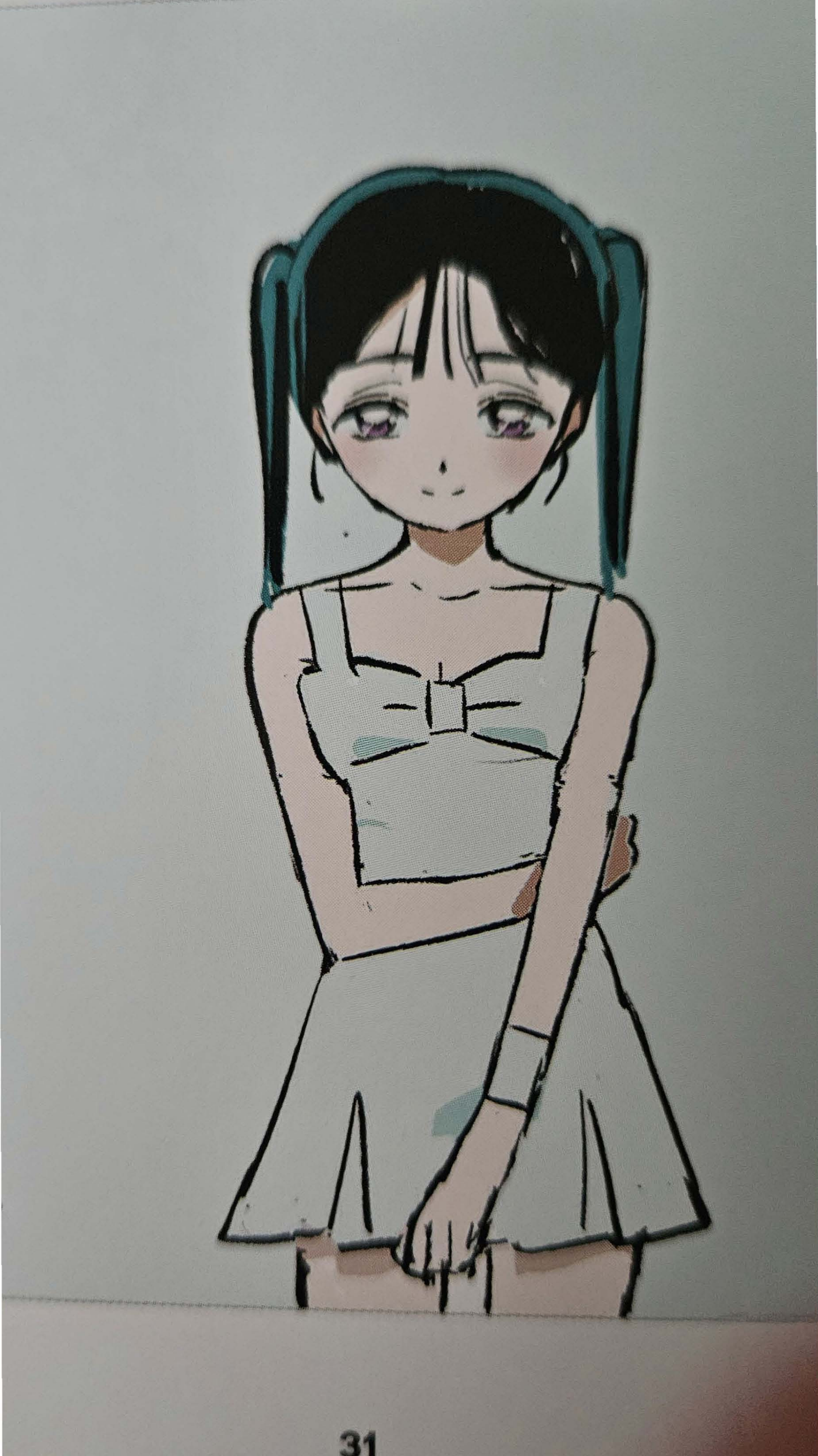
These outfit drafts were drawn when we wondered, "What if we tried to show a more modern look instead of sci-fi?" The final outfit was designed with the keywords "black" and "cool beauty."



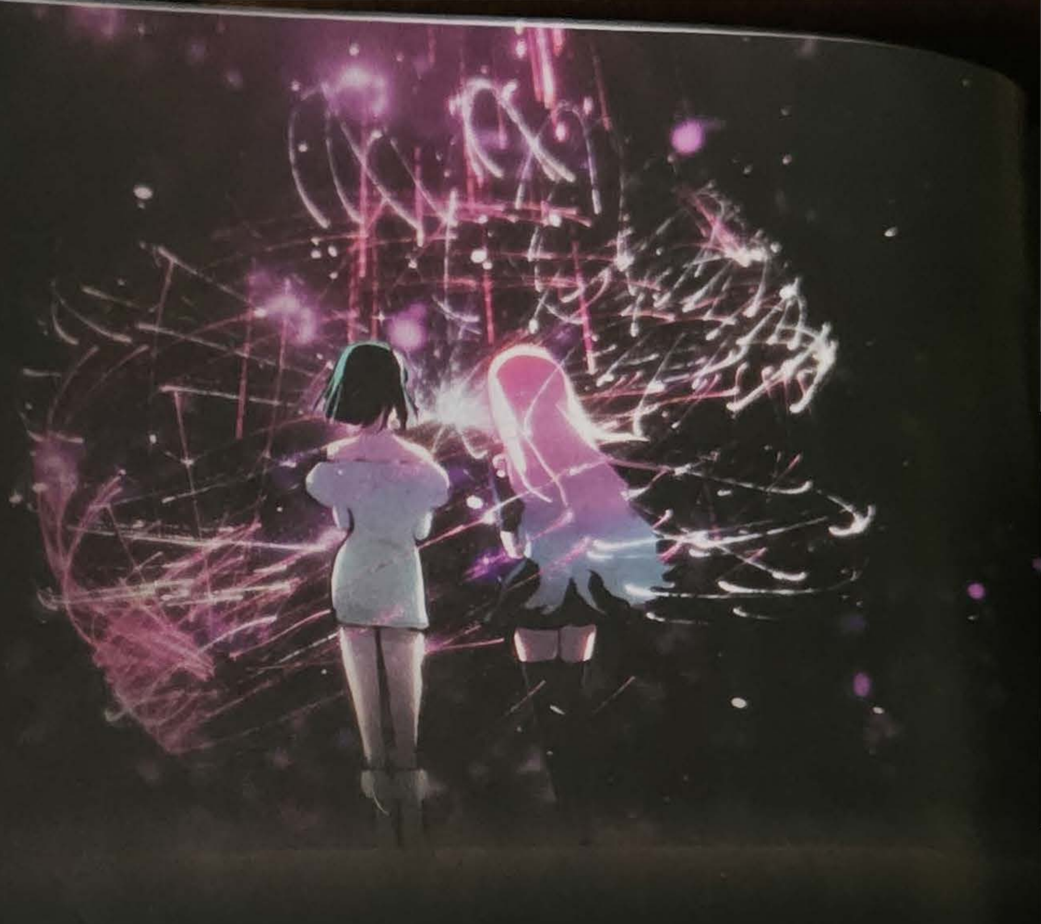
Sua Outfit Draft (Modern ver.)

The design keywords were "white" and "innocent."





ALIEN STAGE ROUND 1 COMMENTARY

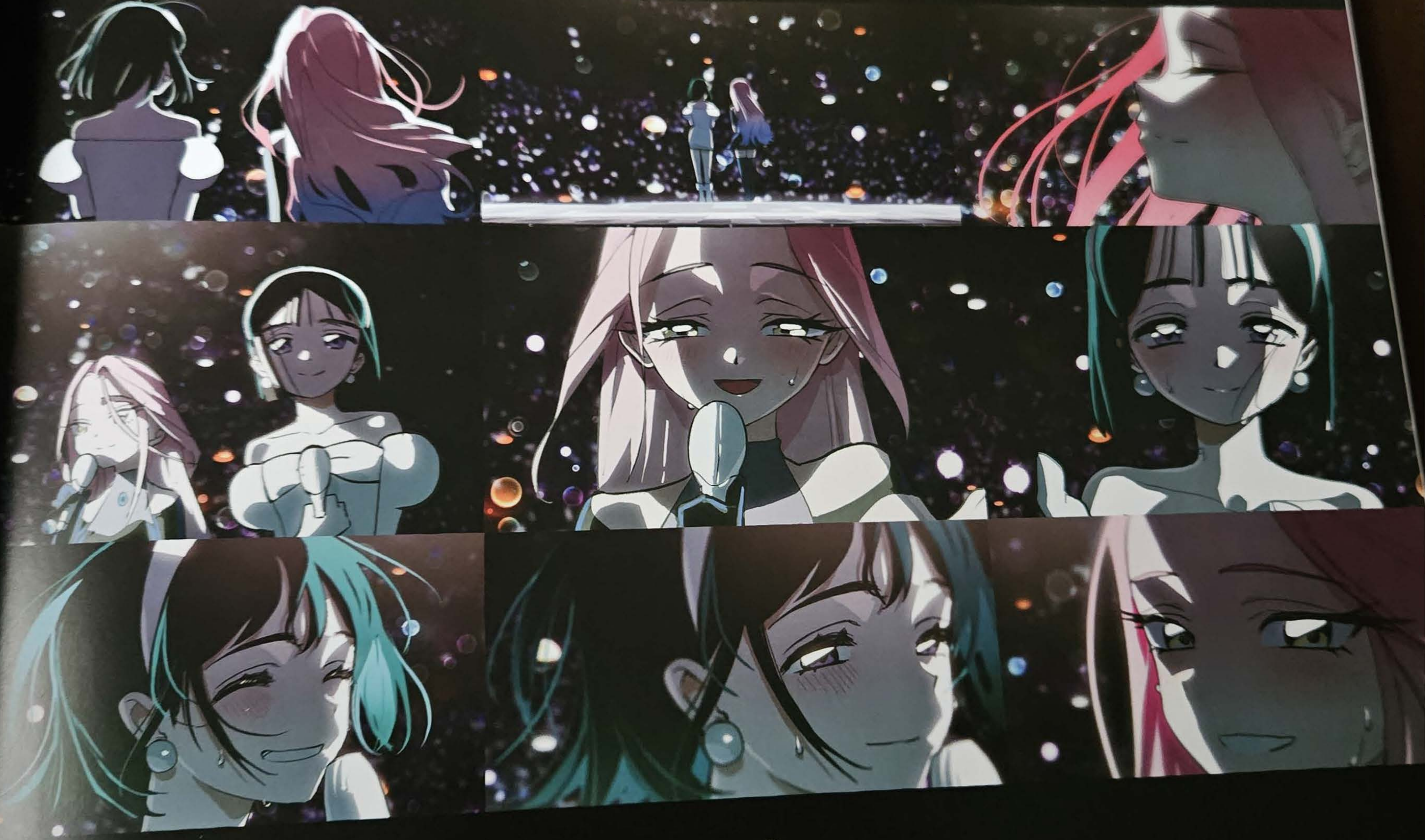


MY CLEMATIS

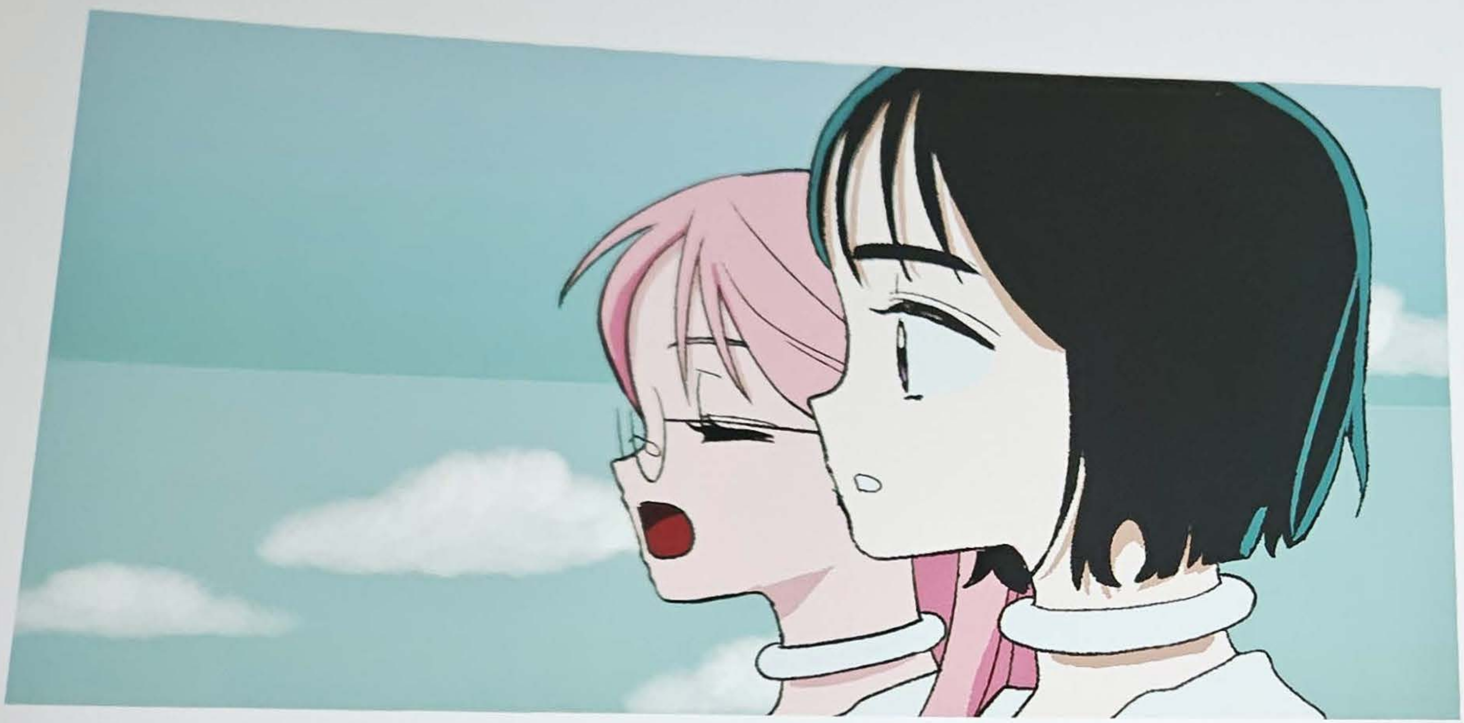
Song by **Rubyeye (MIZI) & ClnaH (SUA)**

Director Commentary

Our first collaboration with Studio LICO. ROUND 1 marked the start of *Alien Stage* and introduced elements of drama that were not present in previous works, which led to a period of trial and error during production. ROUND 1 led to the creation of Team Forma+9, and we began building a system for producing animations.



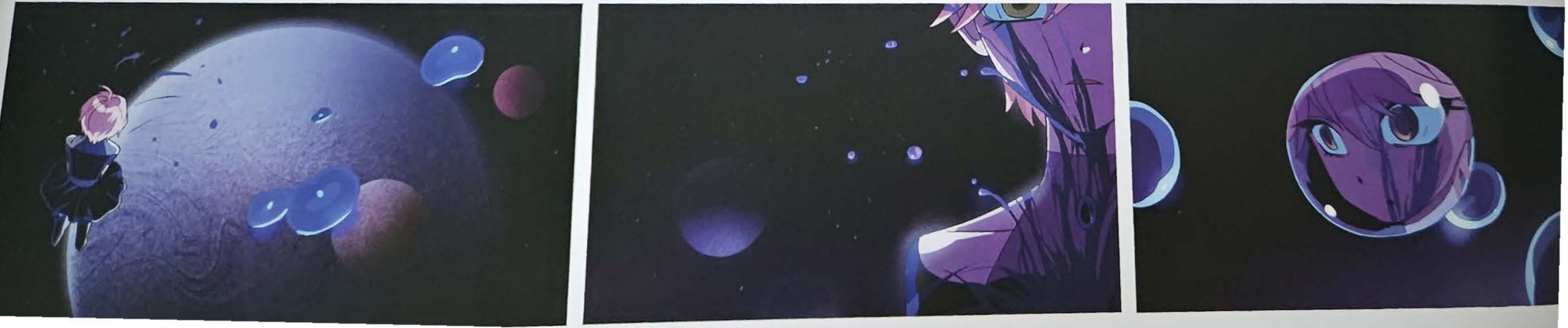
ROUND 1 | Early Worldbuilding Concept Board

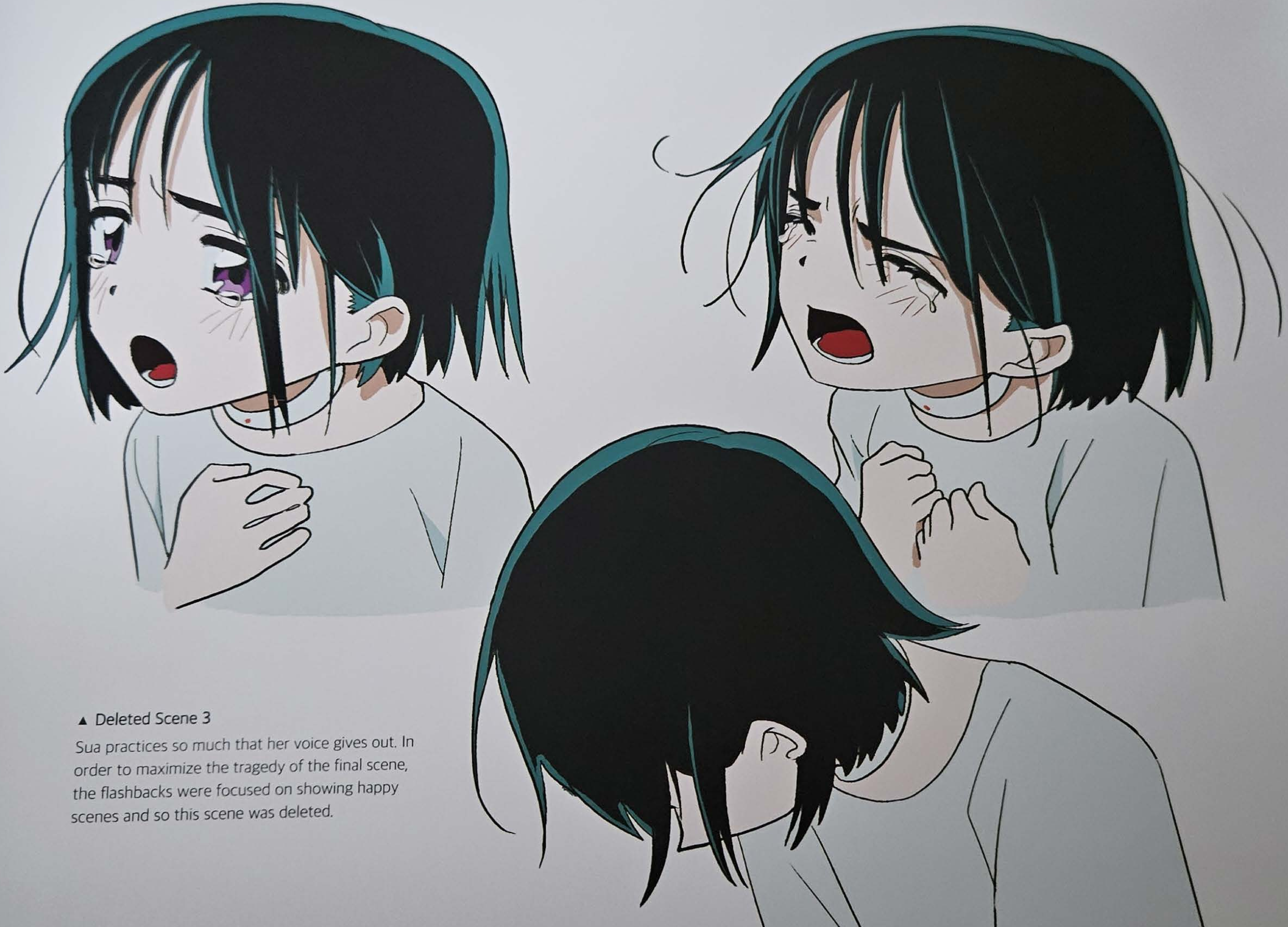


◀ Deleted Scene 1

Scene where Mizi and Sua met for the first time.
It ruined the flow of the video, so it was ultimately deleted.

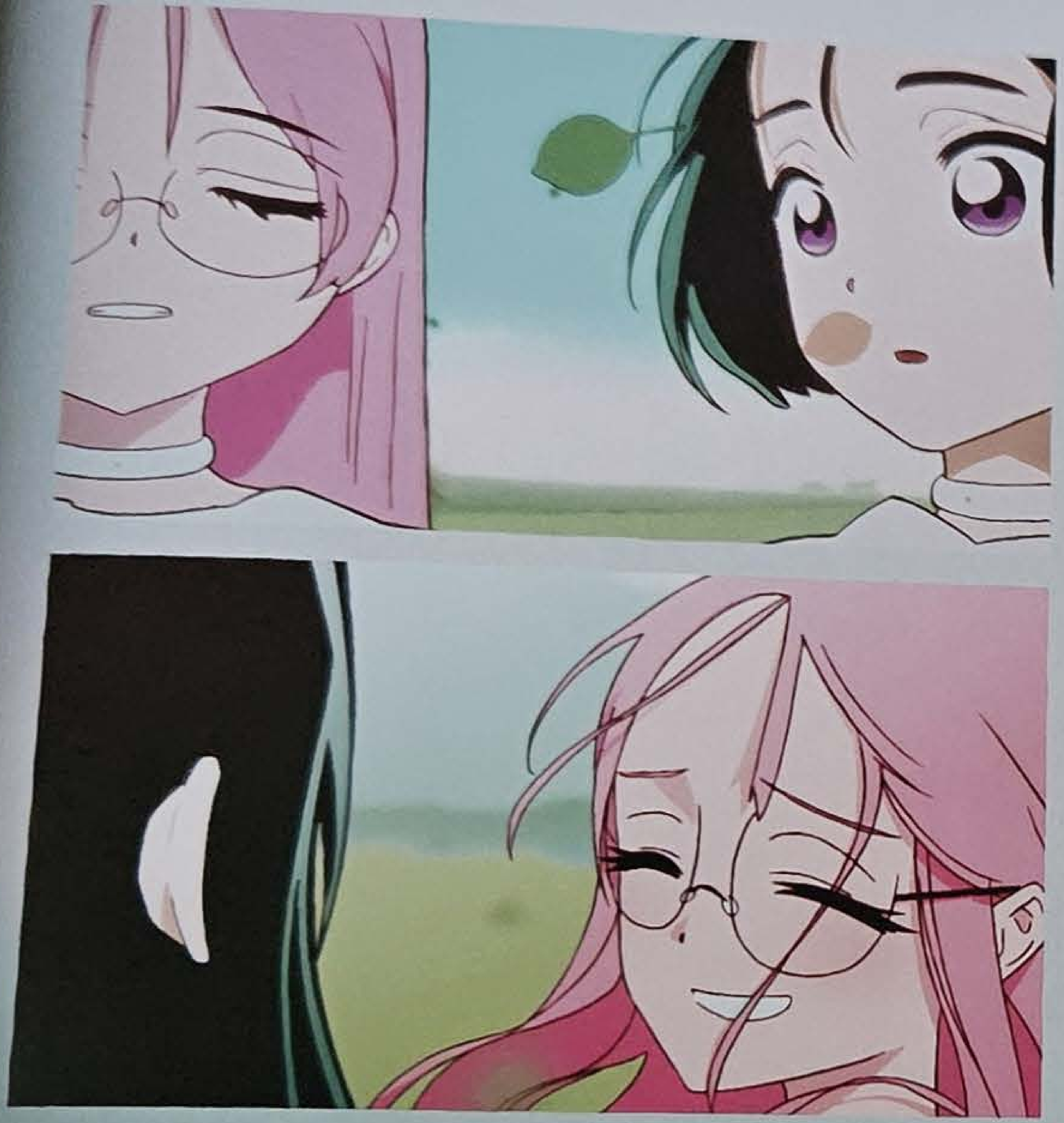
▼ *Deleted Scene 2* *A scene that showed the cruel reality that Mizi will face in the future. It was originally going to be at the beginning but was deleted for the sake of preserving the emotional flow of the video.*

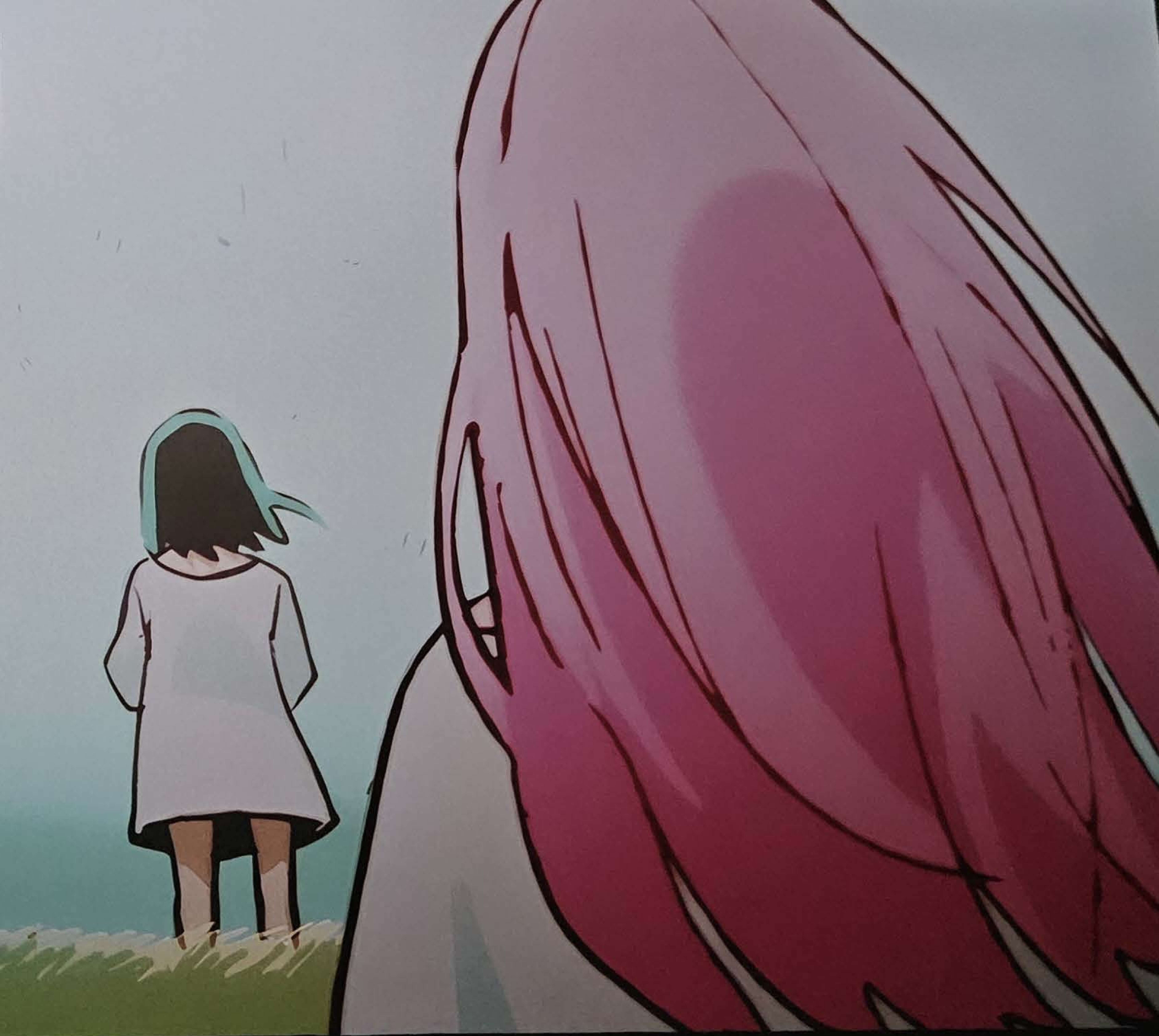




▲ Deleted Scene 3

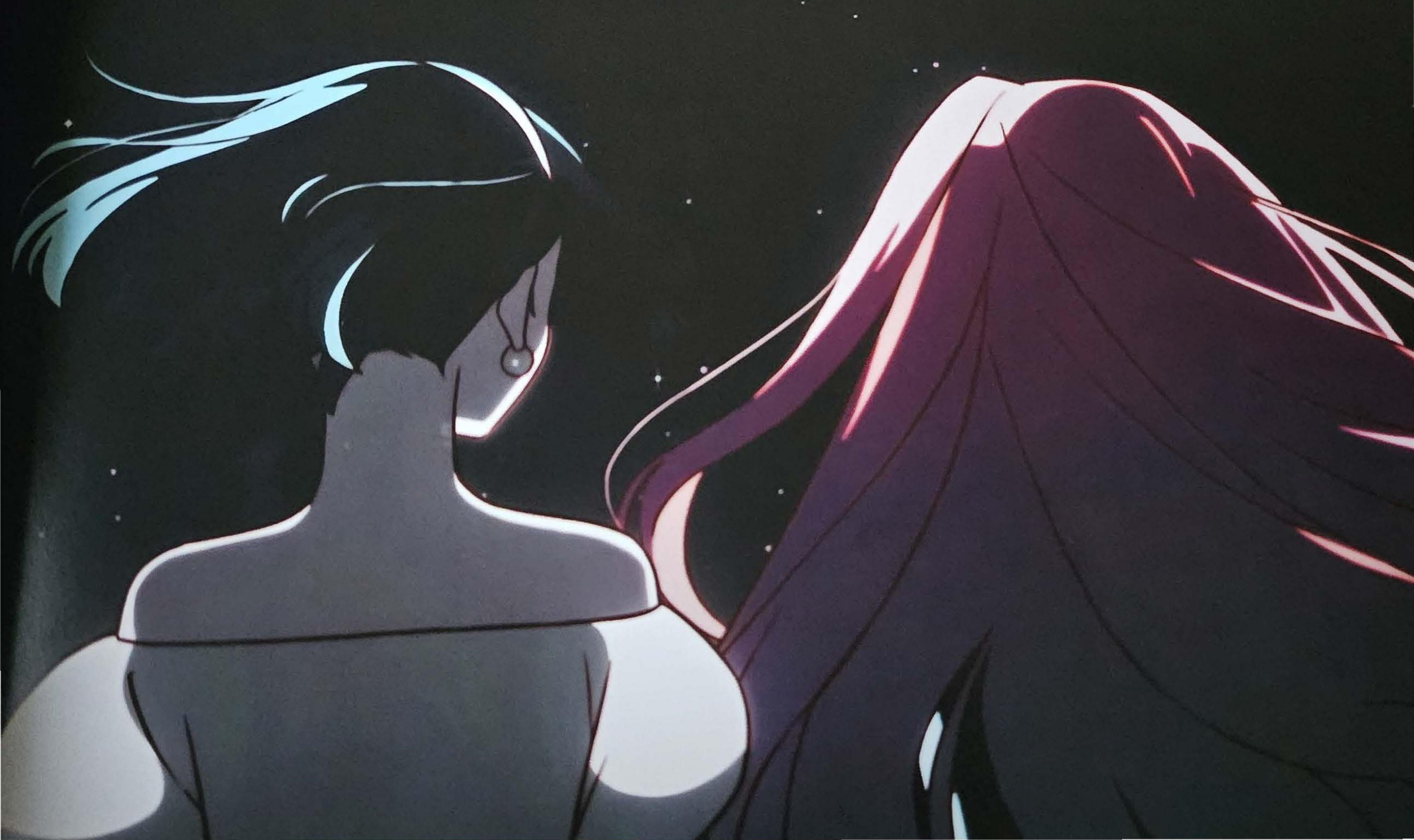
Sua practices so much that her voice gives out. In order to maximize the tragedy of the final scene, the flashbacks were focused on showing happy scenes and so this scene was deleted.

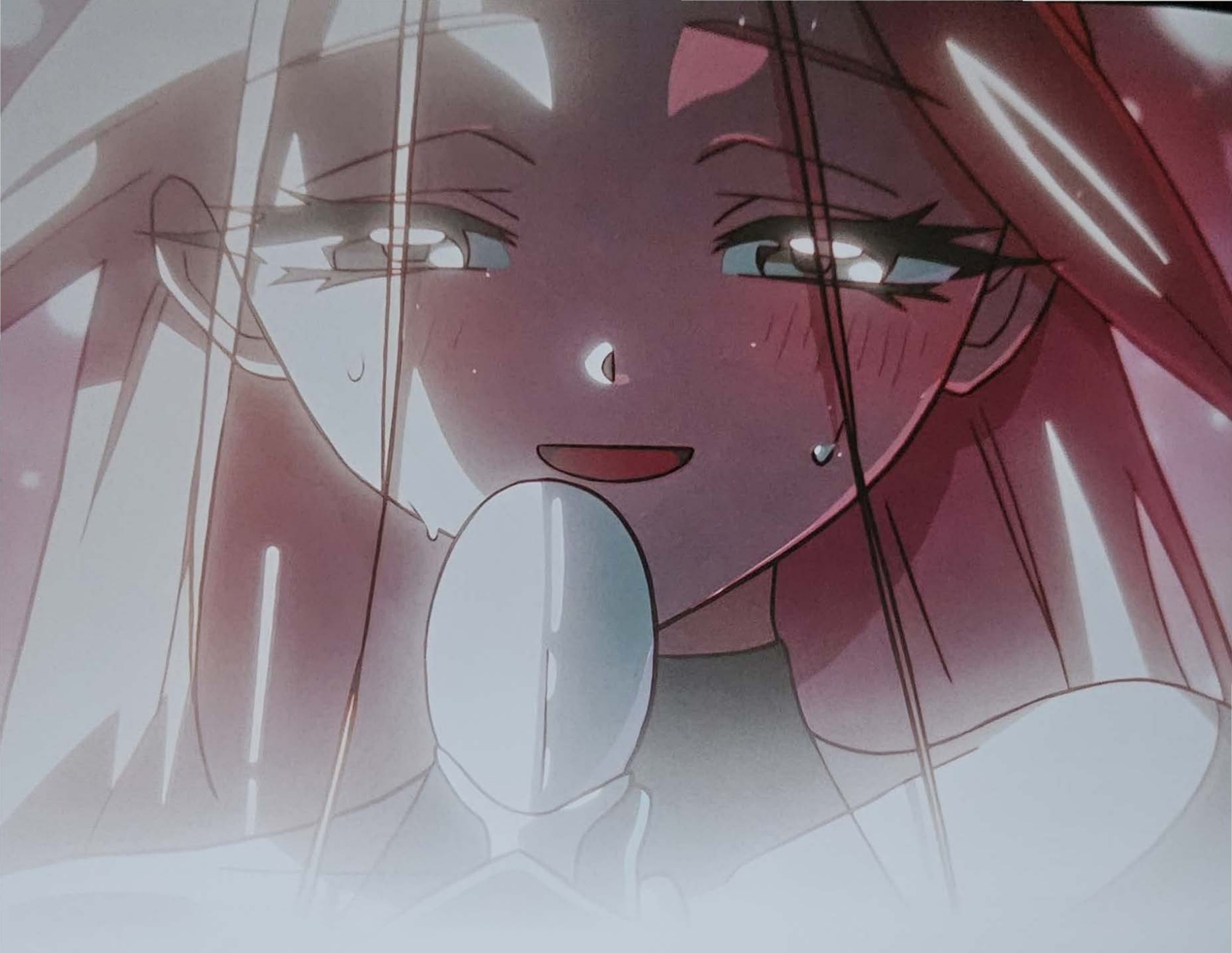




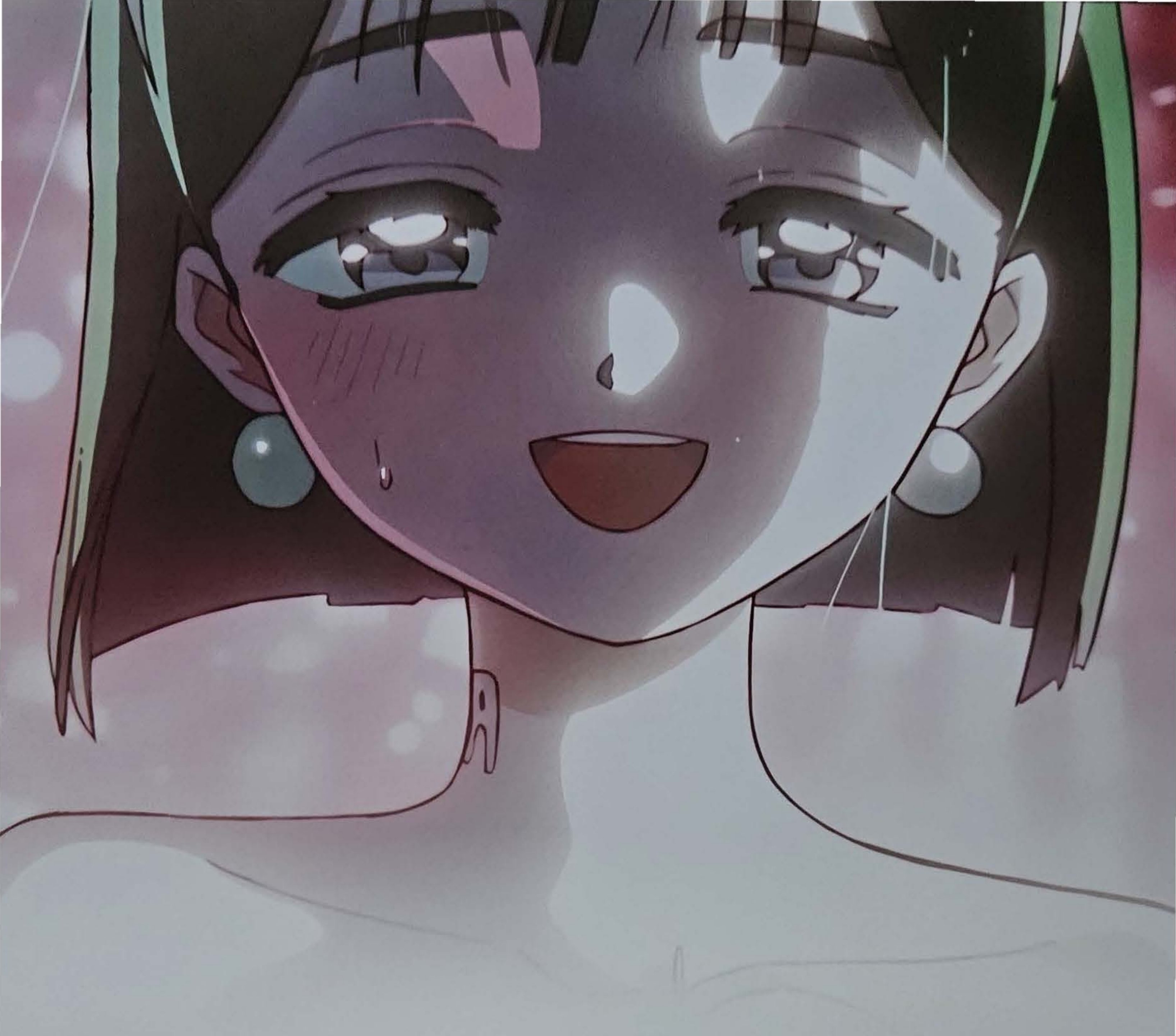
A scene where Mizi and Sua find solace in each other through sharing songs within an unfamiliar environment. These children, who couldn't be protected from the dystopian world, build special connections by relying on each other.

The first stage that they always dreamed of.
Even though a tragic end awaits them,
Sua just wishes to stay within this happy moment with Mizi.

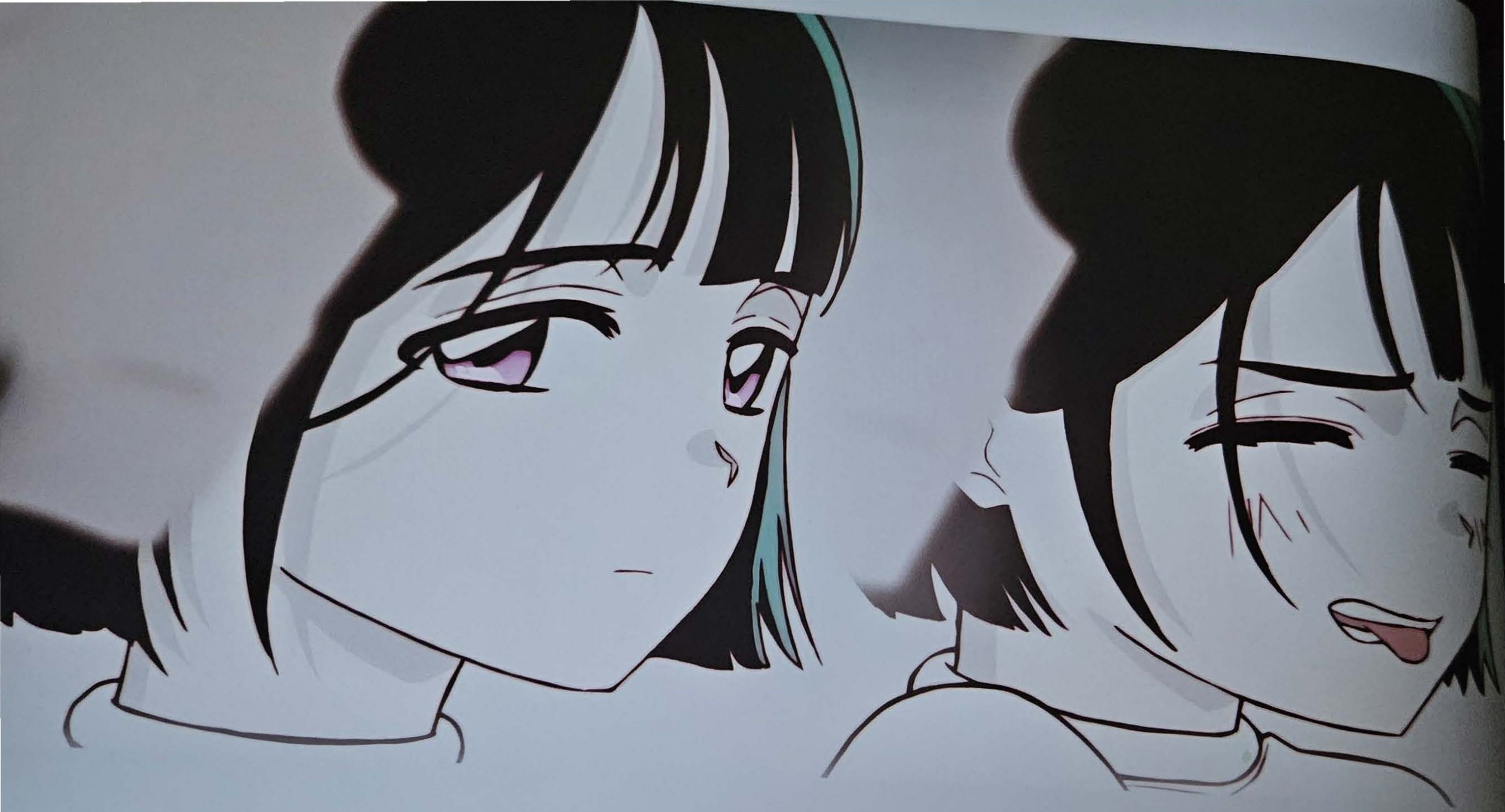




Mizi sings without knowing the secret of Alien Stage.
Being onstage with Sua has been Mizi's dream ever since she was little.
In this scene where Sua and Mizi face each other, we wanted to capture the special affection between these two that an outside viewer could never understand.



Sua also doesn't care how this ends.
Her eyes are only ever focused upon Mizi standing before her.
In this world where freedom is forbidden, perhaps the only way for her to survive was to look away from the harsh truth and look only at Mizi.

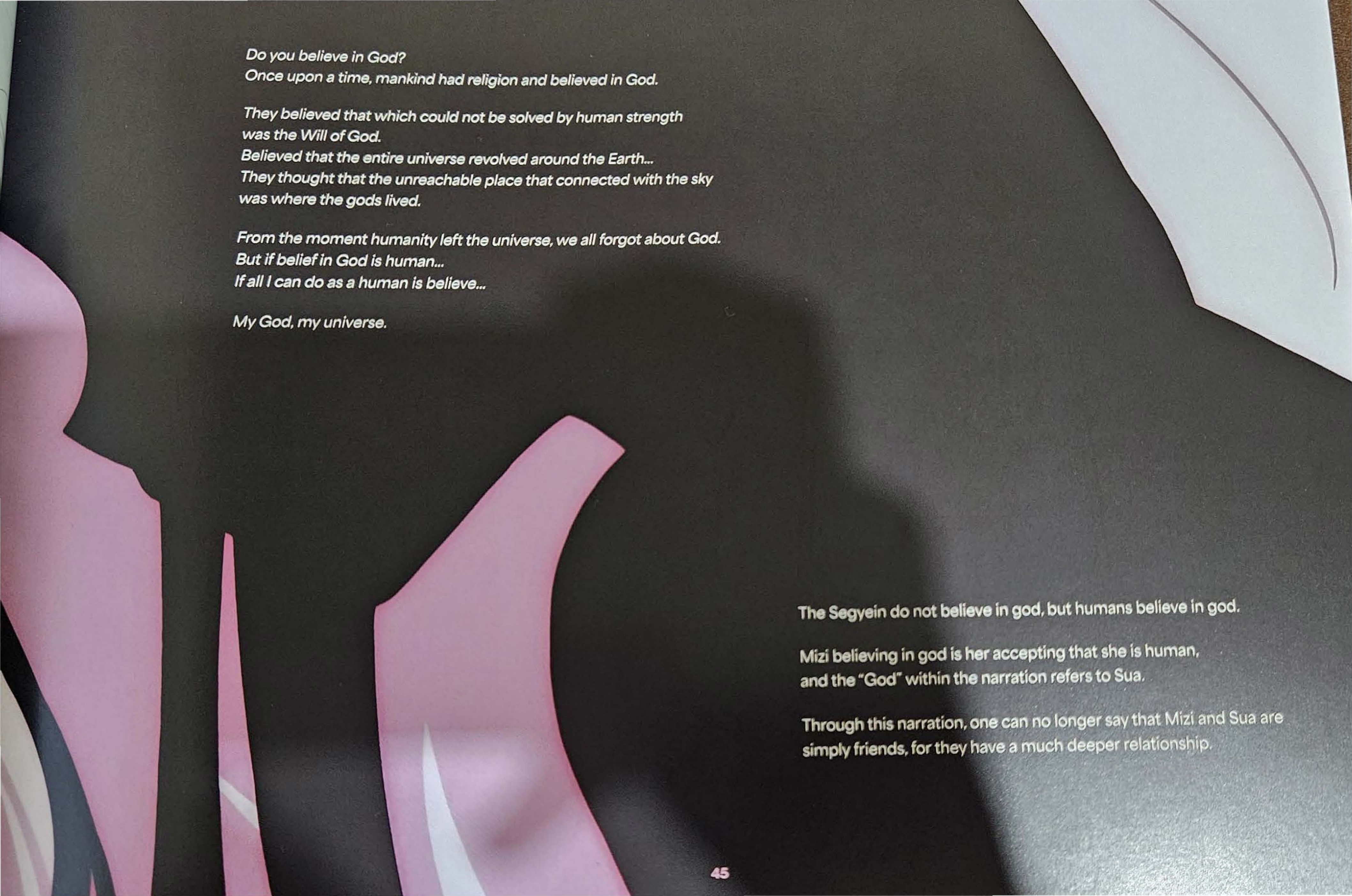


Nicknamed the "Ice Princess," Sua doesn't show her smile to anyone other than Mizi.
From Sua's point of view, anything other than Mizi might as well not exist.

DIRECTOR COMMENTARY

Mizi - Sua

Sua was the one who prevented Mizi's growth. She always let Mizi dream and let her believe a happy ending awaited her.
Sua's protection ensured that Mizi would not be prepared for the loneliness of this situation at all.
Perhaps Sua's obsessive behavior stemmed from the fact that listening to Mizi's carefree songs was her only escape.
In the end, Mizi broke down after experiencing despair for the first time, losing everything.



Do you believe in God?
Once upon a time, mankind had religion and believed in God.

They believed that which could not be solved by human strength
was the Will of God.
Believed that the entire universe revolved around the Earth...
They thought that the unreachable place that connected with the sky
was where the gods lived.

From the moment humanity left the universe, we all forgot about God.
But if belief in God is human...
If all I can do as a human is believe...

My God, my universe.

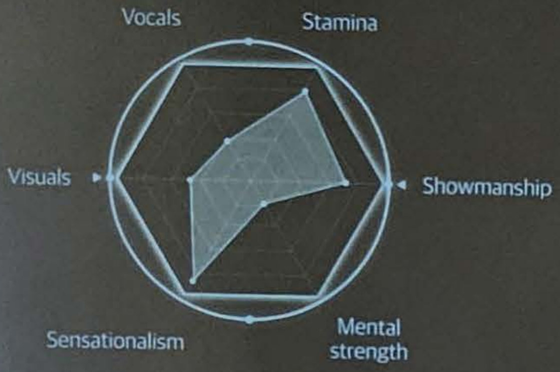
The Segyein do not believe in god, but humans believe in god.

Mizi believing in god is her accepting that she is human,
and the "God" within the narration refers to Sua.

Through this narration, one can no longer say that Mizi and Sua are
simply friends, for they have a much deeper relationship.

ALIEN STAGE

ALIEN STAGE
TILL



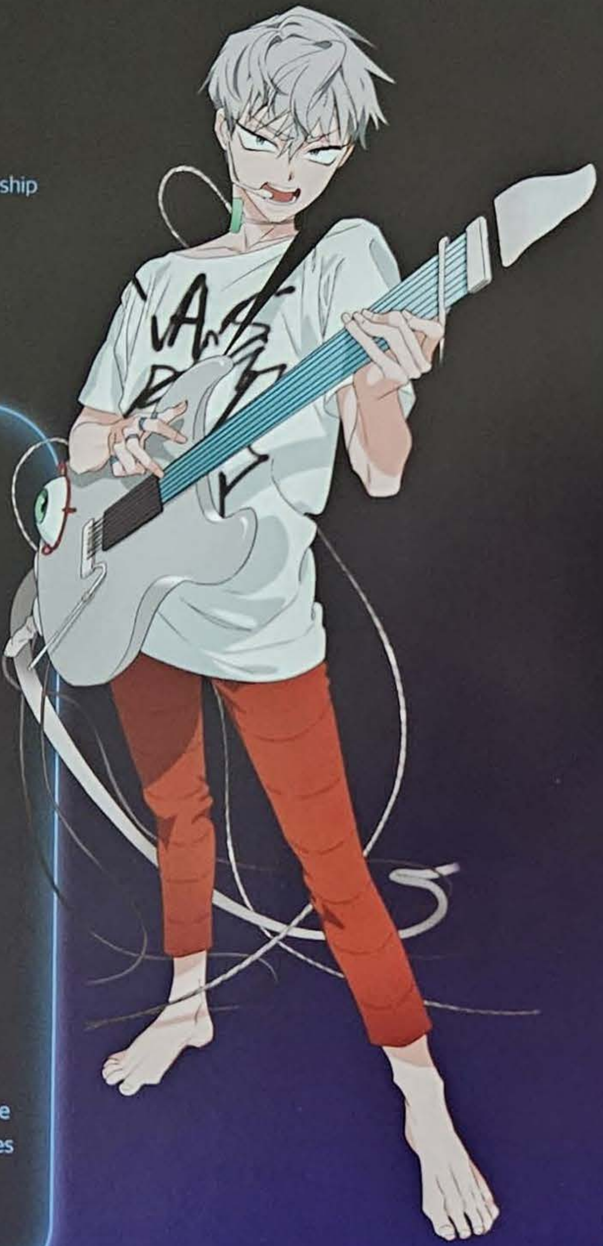
CHARACTER COMMENT

#UnrequitedLove #GeniusArtist #Idiot #INFP

PRO FILE

Birthday	0621
Born	Human Multi-Shop
Age	21
Height/Weight	5'8" / 156lbs
Blood Type	RH+A
ID Number	010525
Affiliation	Anakt Garden 50th Class
Owner	Urak
Likes	Mizi, Doodling, Music Composition
Dislikes	Every single Segyein, including Urak
Talent	Flower Art
MBTI	INFP

An artist with the ability to quickly overwhelm the audience with his powerful performance. The songs that he composes are always at the top of the charts, but he is often at the center of controversies due to his problematic behavior. The contestant with the most divided public opinion.



Human Relationships

Mizi

Closeness 100% ▸ 1st ◂

Mizi, you are the prettiest, most beautiful girl in the whole world. My heart was born again on the day you first smiled at me.

Ivan

Closeness 70% ▸ 2nd ◂

He keeps chasing me, but I can't get proof so the teachers only doubt *me!!* It pisses me off!! He's always doing things I don't like, and I can't understand him... Anyway, he's a bothersome guy.

Sua

Closeness 10% ▸ 3rd ◂

I don't know what to say. I keep running into her because she's friends with Mizi, but she makes me a bit uncomfortable because I have no idea what she's thinking.

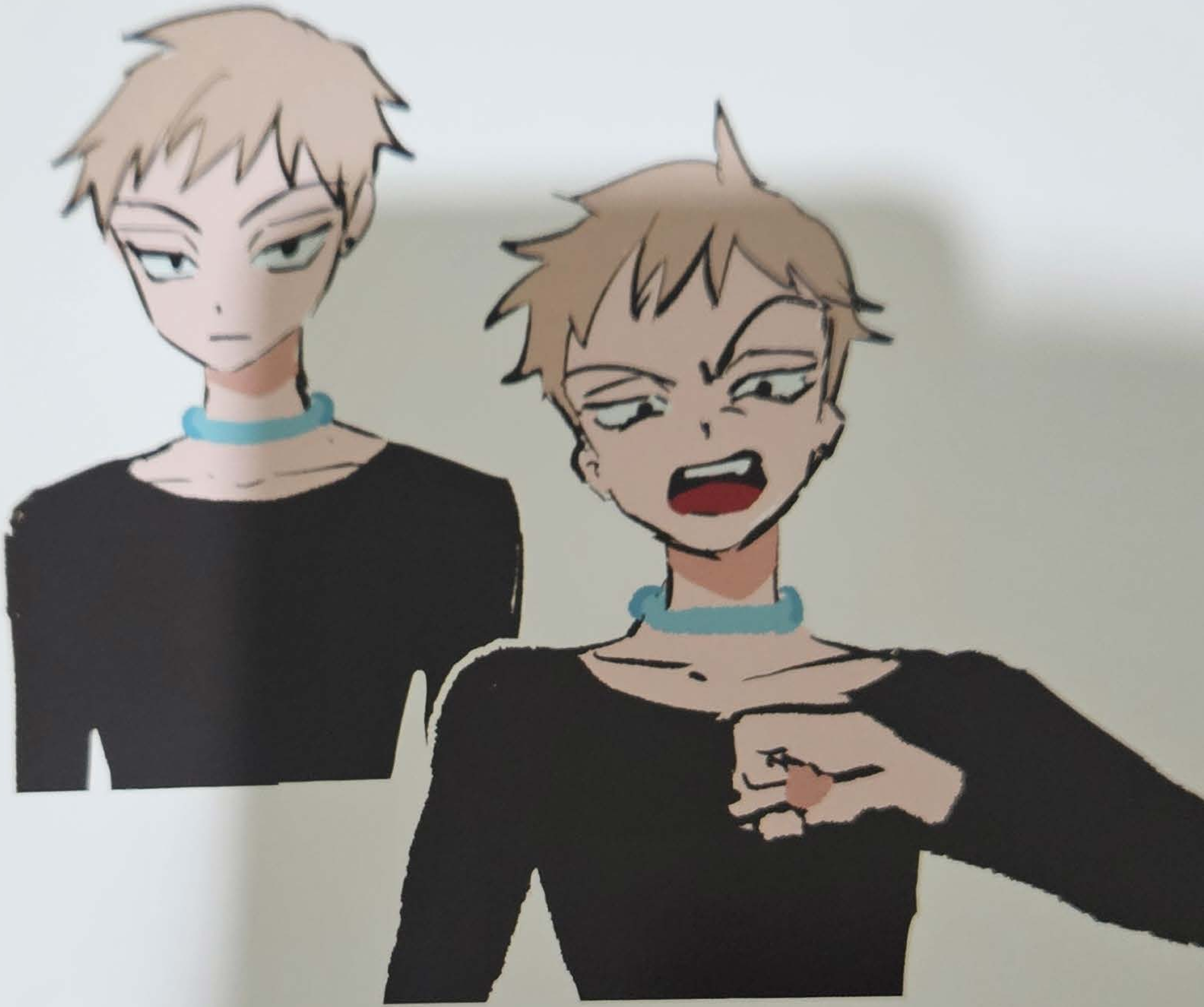
Personality

Rebellious

He has good primal instincts, good sense, and can show extreme focus when needed. He's meticulous and has a lot on his mind, which leads to him baring his teeth at the slightest provocation. He single-handedly seems to prove the idea that geniuses all have bad personalities. He is particularly aggressive towards Segyein, making him by far the most difficult pet human to deal with.

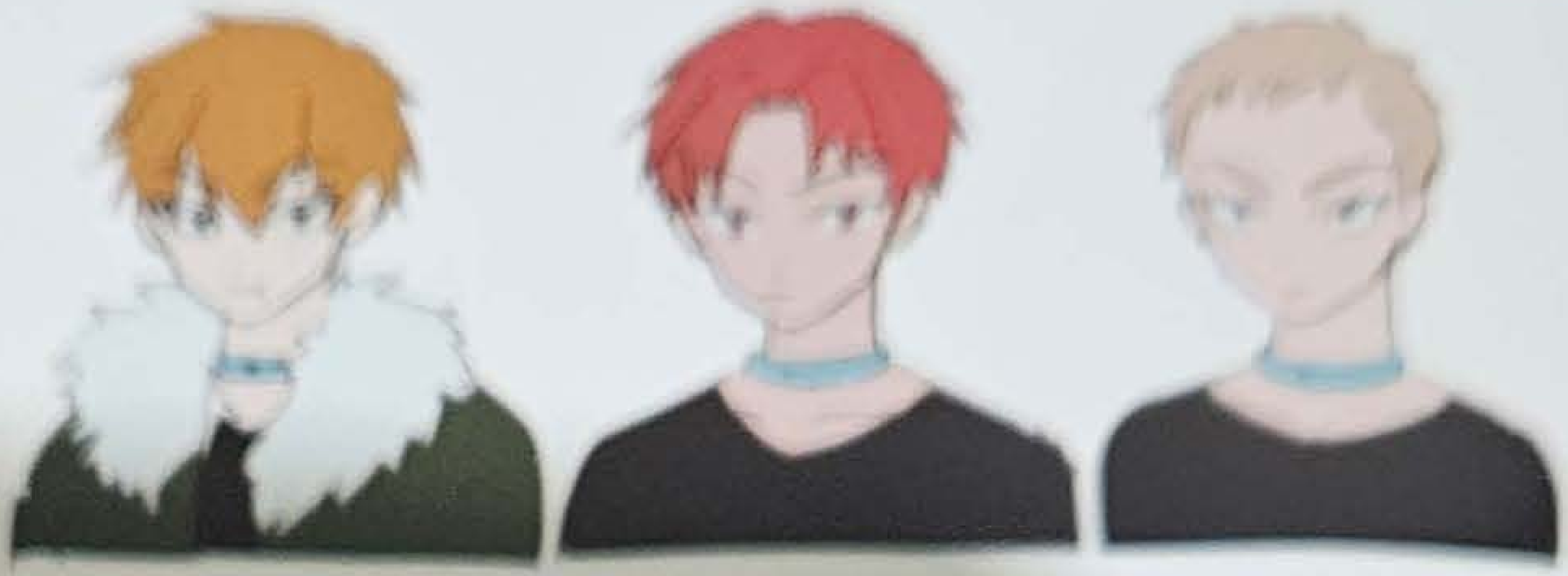
Simple and ignorant

He shows great talent in everything related to the arts, but he comes off as a complete idiot in everything he isn't well-versed in. Thankfully, it seems like this ignorance lets him be close with a few friends, but he will never navigate the world wisely. His simple and impulsive tendencies tend to come back to bite him.

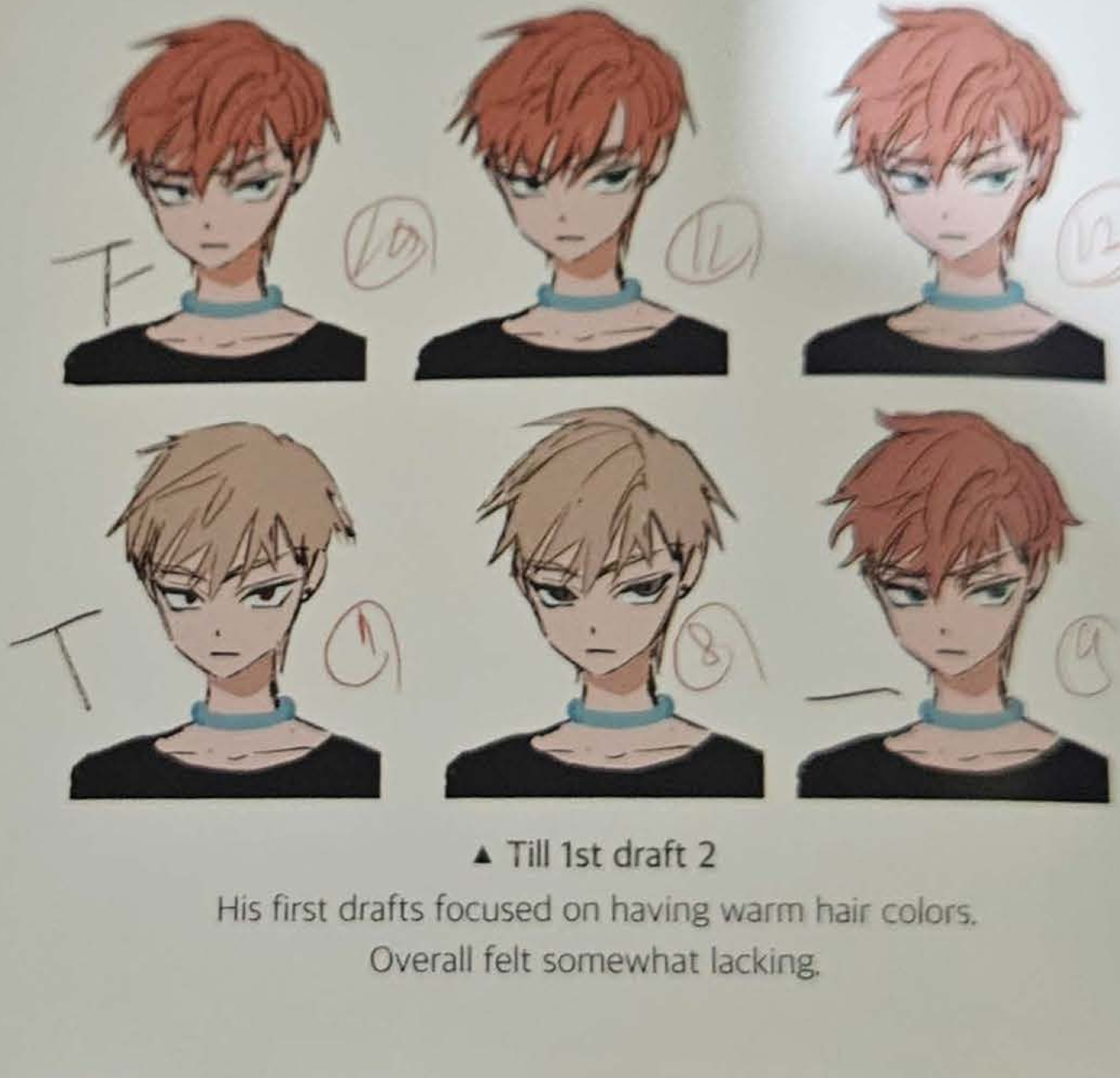


Early Concept

A guitarist and vocalist with pure bravado. Because of his constant disobedience, the shock ring around his neck is much more elaborate and powerful than the others'. Till, like Mizi and Sua, had a modern setting established for him. He was a no-name rocker who mostly sang less popular songs. He made a living performing in underground stages, and he had a fun concept where his off-mainstream songs were popular with the aliens, so he became a famous rock star.



▲ Till 1st draft 1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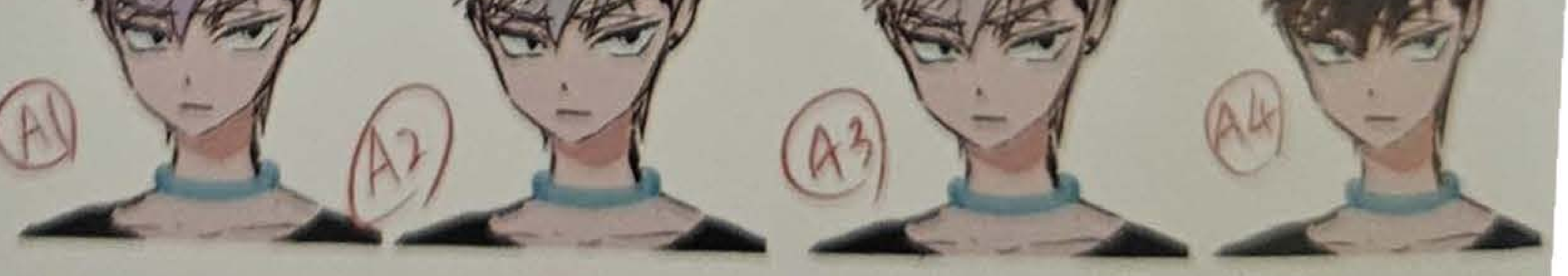
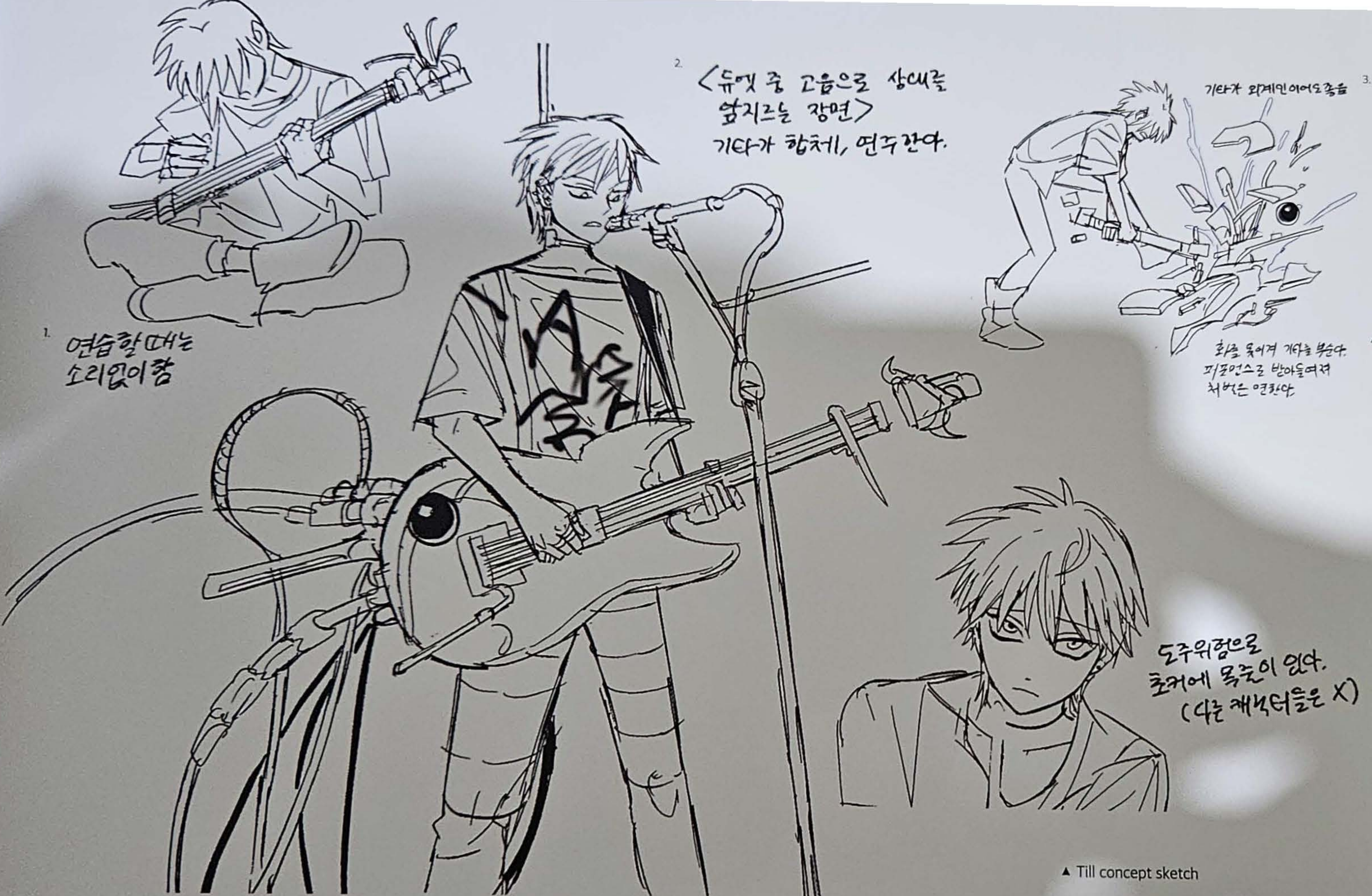
▲ Till 1st draft 2

His first drafts focused on having warm hair colors.
Overall felt somewhat lacking.



▲ Till 2nd draft

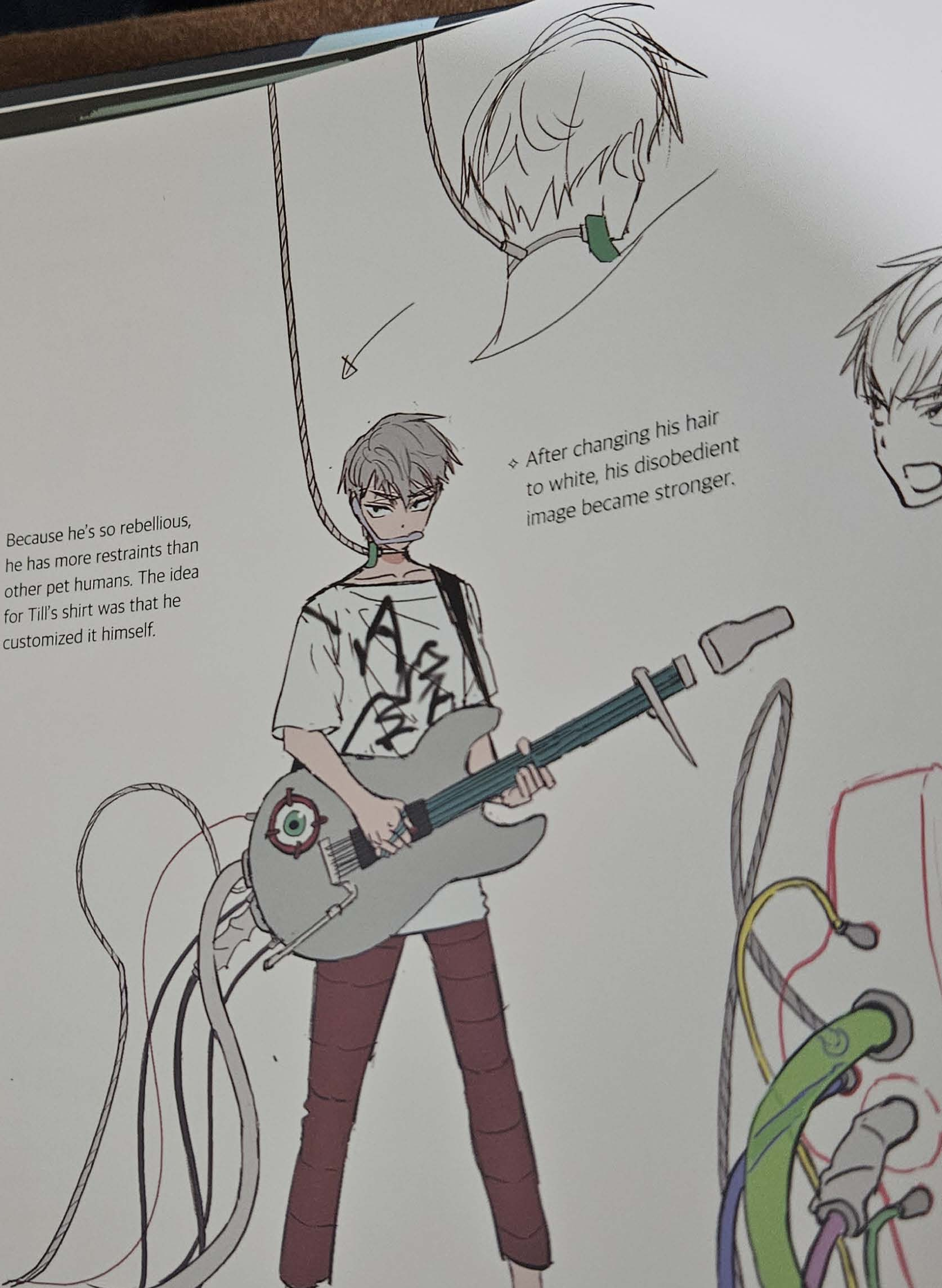
It became much better when his hair got changed to cool colors!



1.
연습할때는
소리없이함
2.
<듀엣 중 고음으로 상대를
앞지르는 장면>
기타가 합체, 연주한다.
3.
기타가 외계인이어도좋음
4.
화를 못이겨 기타를 부순다.
퍼포먼스로 받아들여져
처벌은 면한다.
5.
도주위험으로
초커에 목줄이 있다.
(다른 캐릭터들은 X)

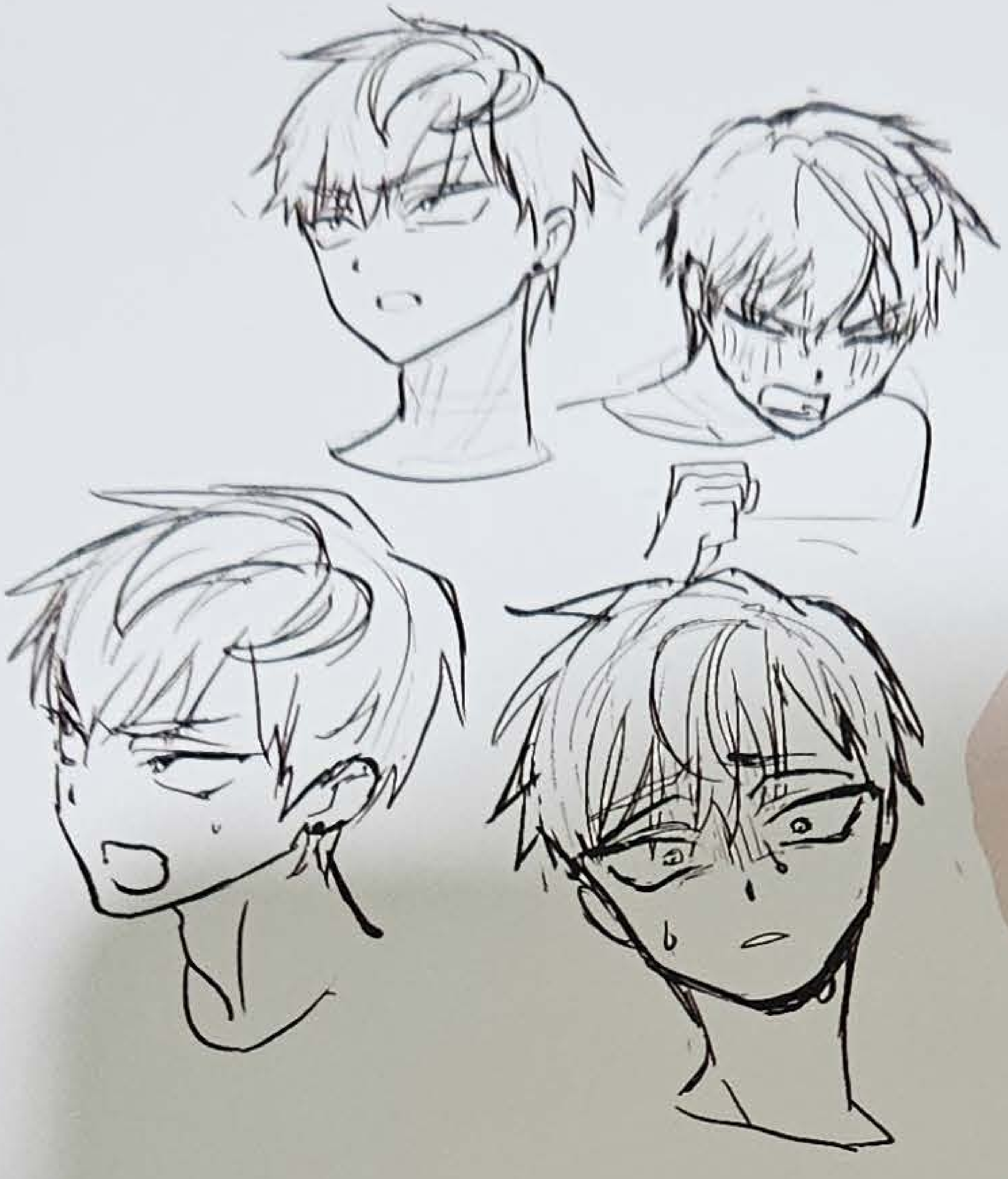
▲ Till concept sketch

1. He makes no noise when he's practicing. 2. (Scene where he overtakes his opponent with a high pitch during a duet) The guitar fuses together and performs. 3. Doesn't mind that the guitar is an alien. 4. He breaks the guitar out of anger. This is considered a part of the performance, so he avoids punishment. 5. His collar has a leash because he is considered a potential escape risk. (Other characters don't have this.)



✧ Because he's so rebellious, he has more restraints than other pet humans. The idea for Till's shirt was that he customized it himself.

✧ After changing his hair to white, his disobedient image became stronger.



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bedient
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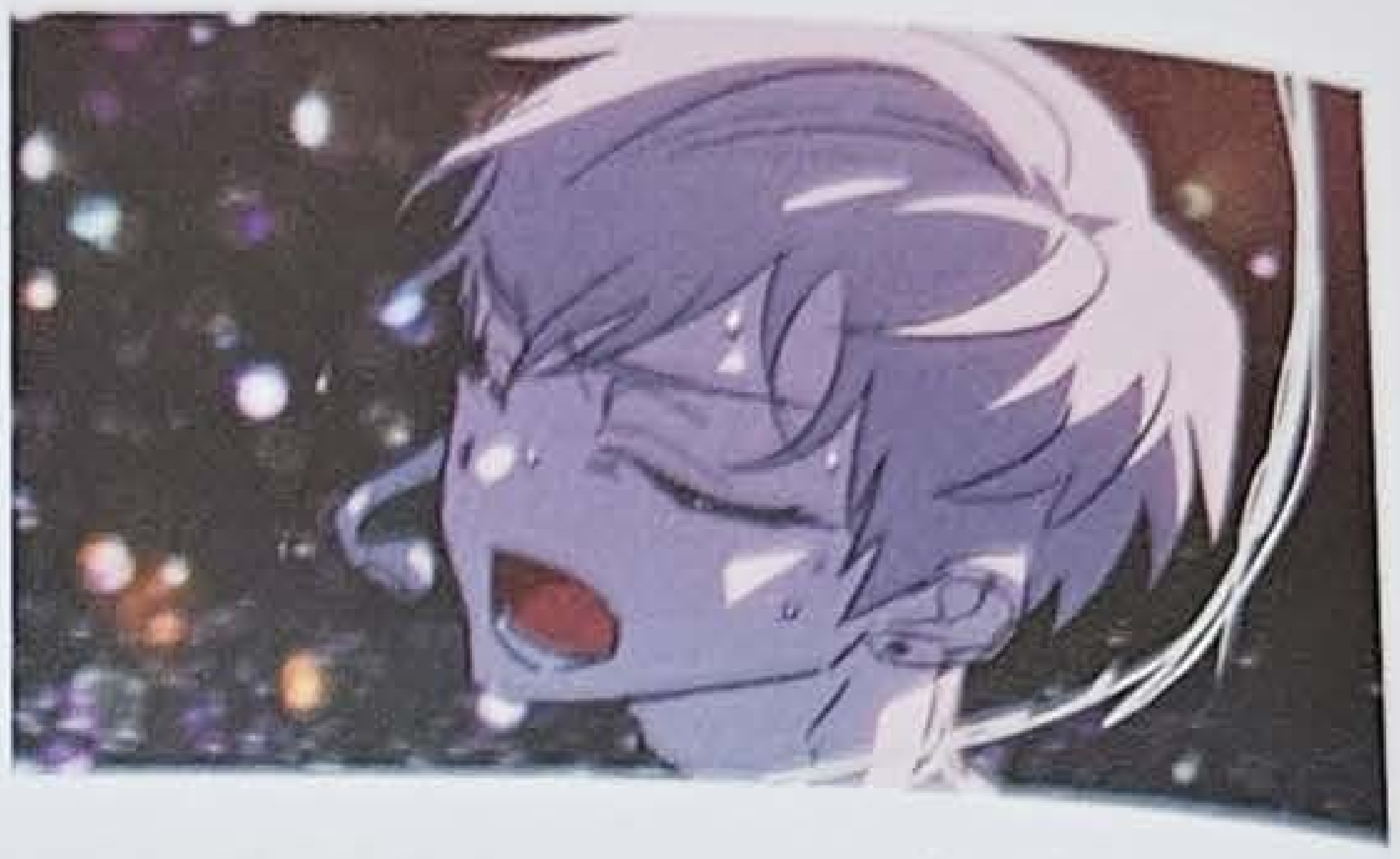
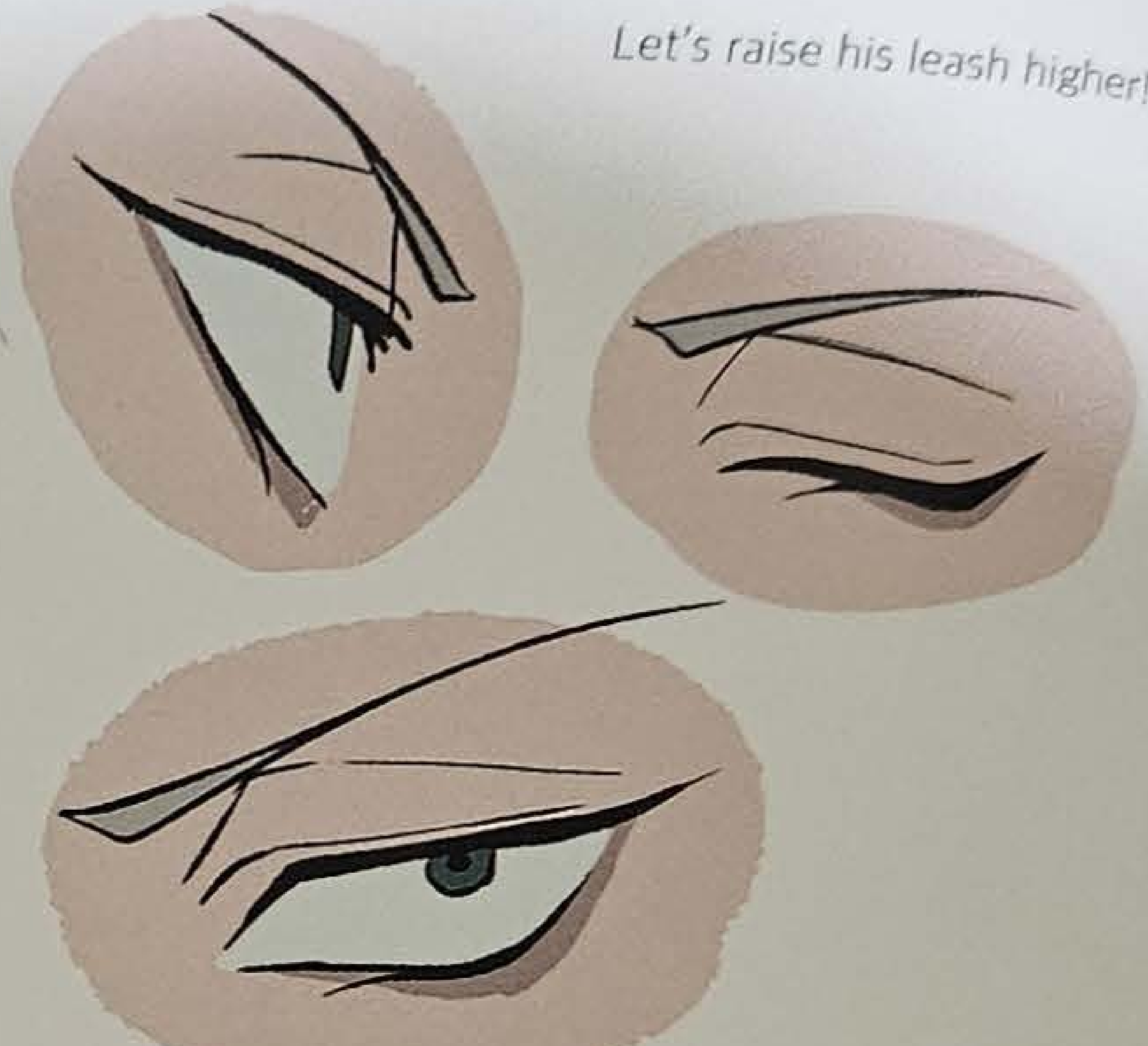
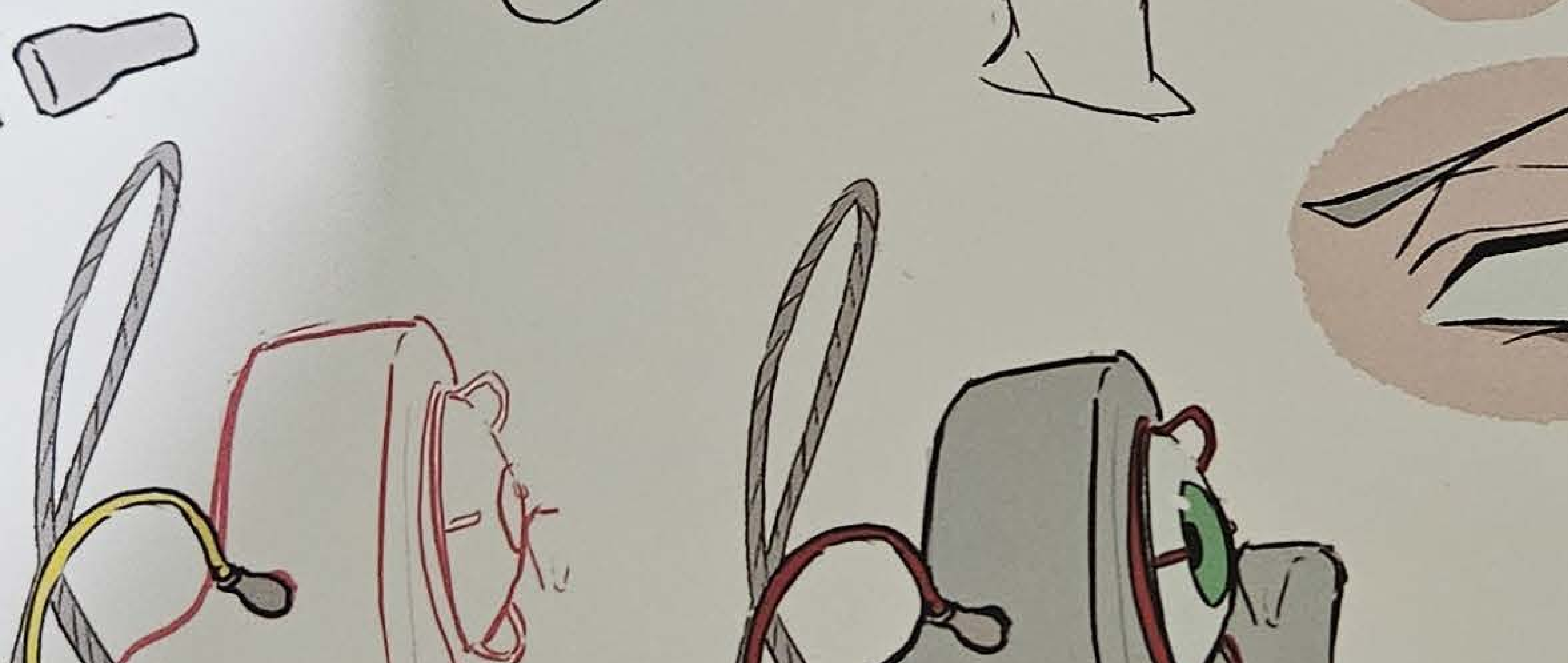


목줄 위로 올려보자!

Let's raise his leash higher!





◄ **Freddie**

The guitar's name is "Freddie." They are a lower-class alien in the shape of a guitar. Till's owner Urak gave this to him for his first performance. Perhaps he broke it because it was a gift from Urak...

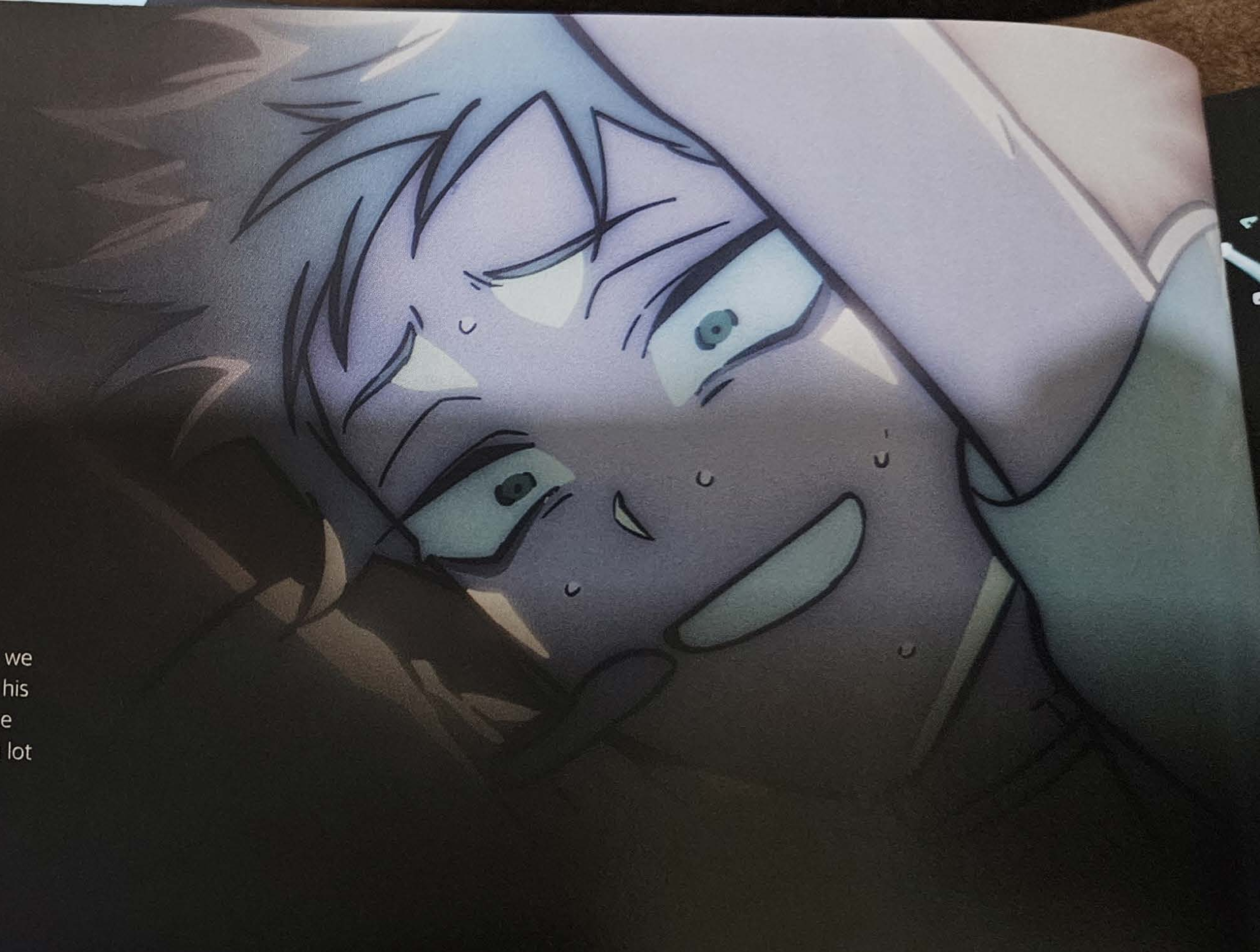
(Freddie had a family and was the father of two children.)

틸 방향
Till's direction

ALIEN STAGE ROUND 2 COMMENTARY

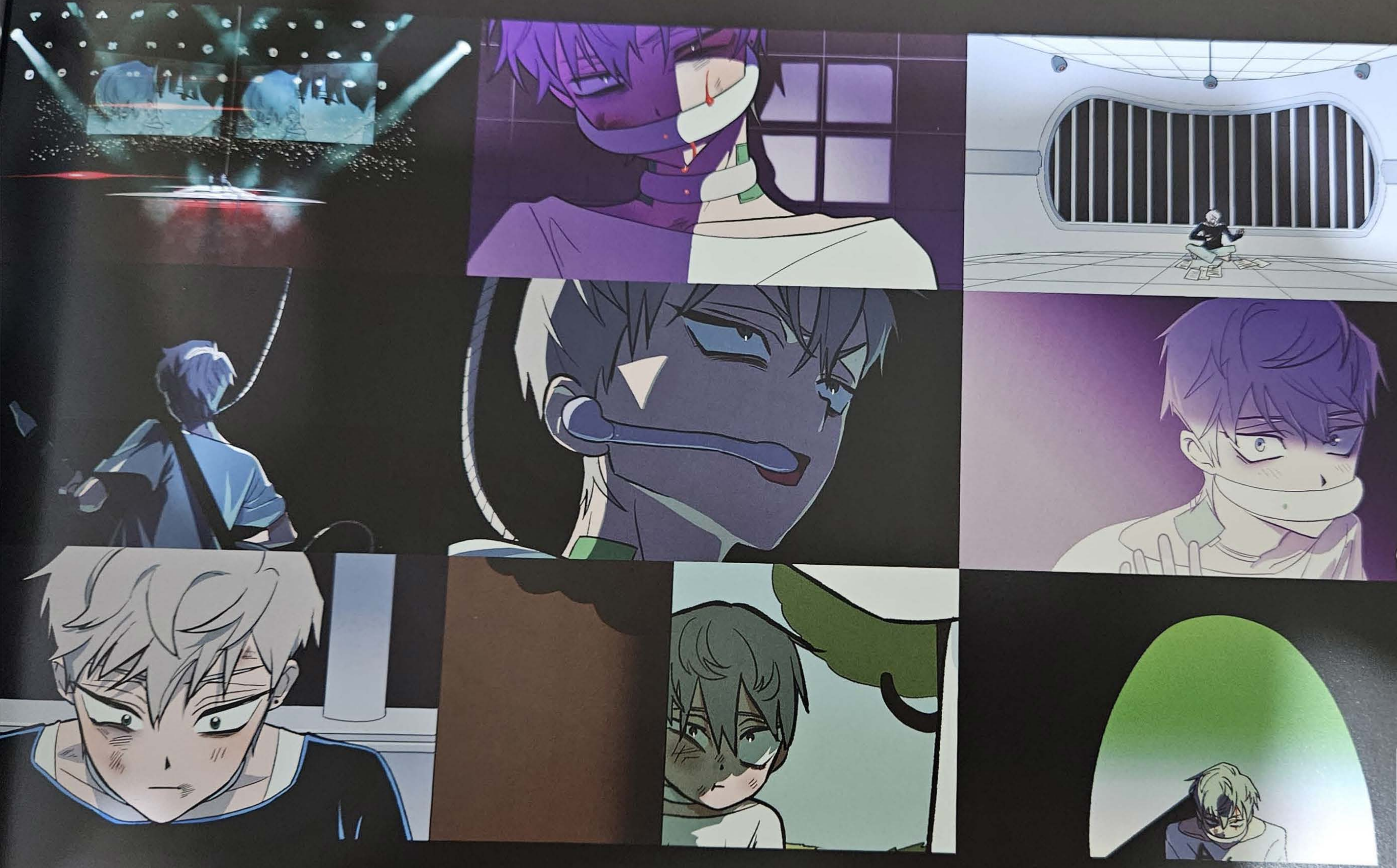
UNKNOWN (TILL THE END...)

Song by **AKUGETSU (TILL)**

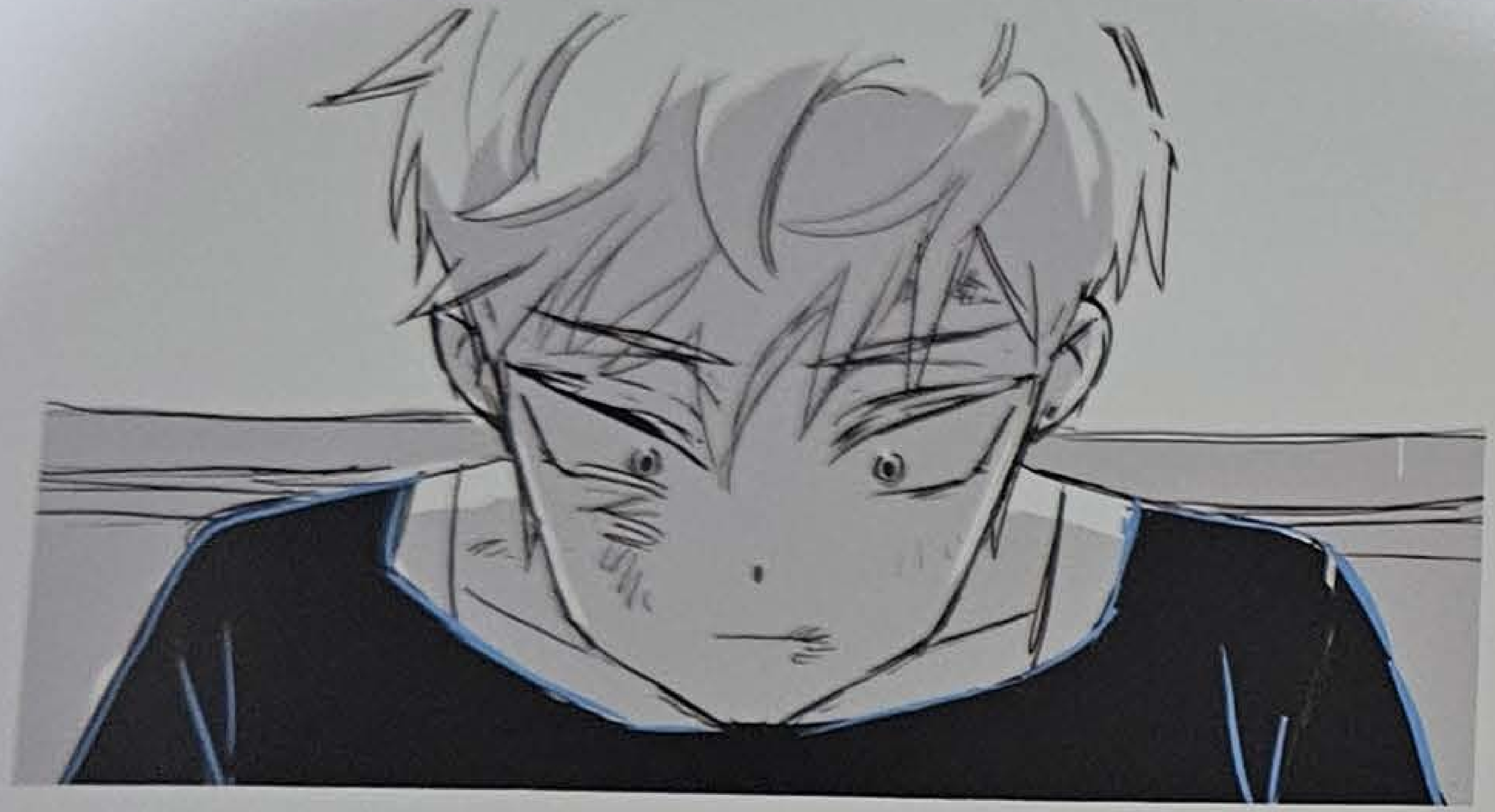


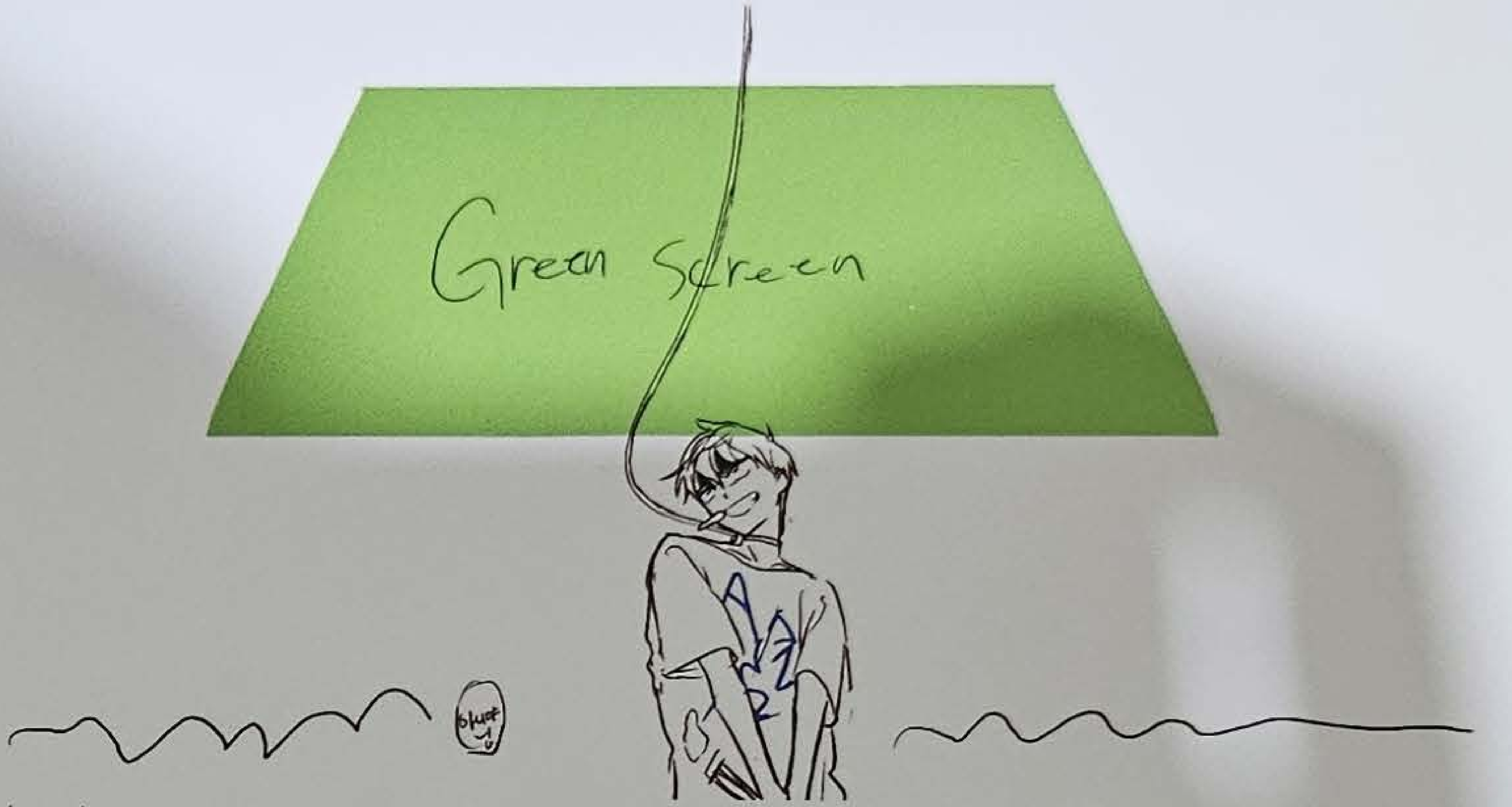
Director Commentary

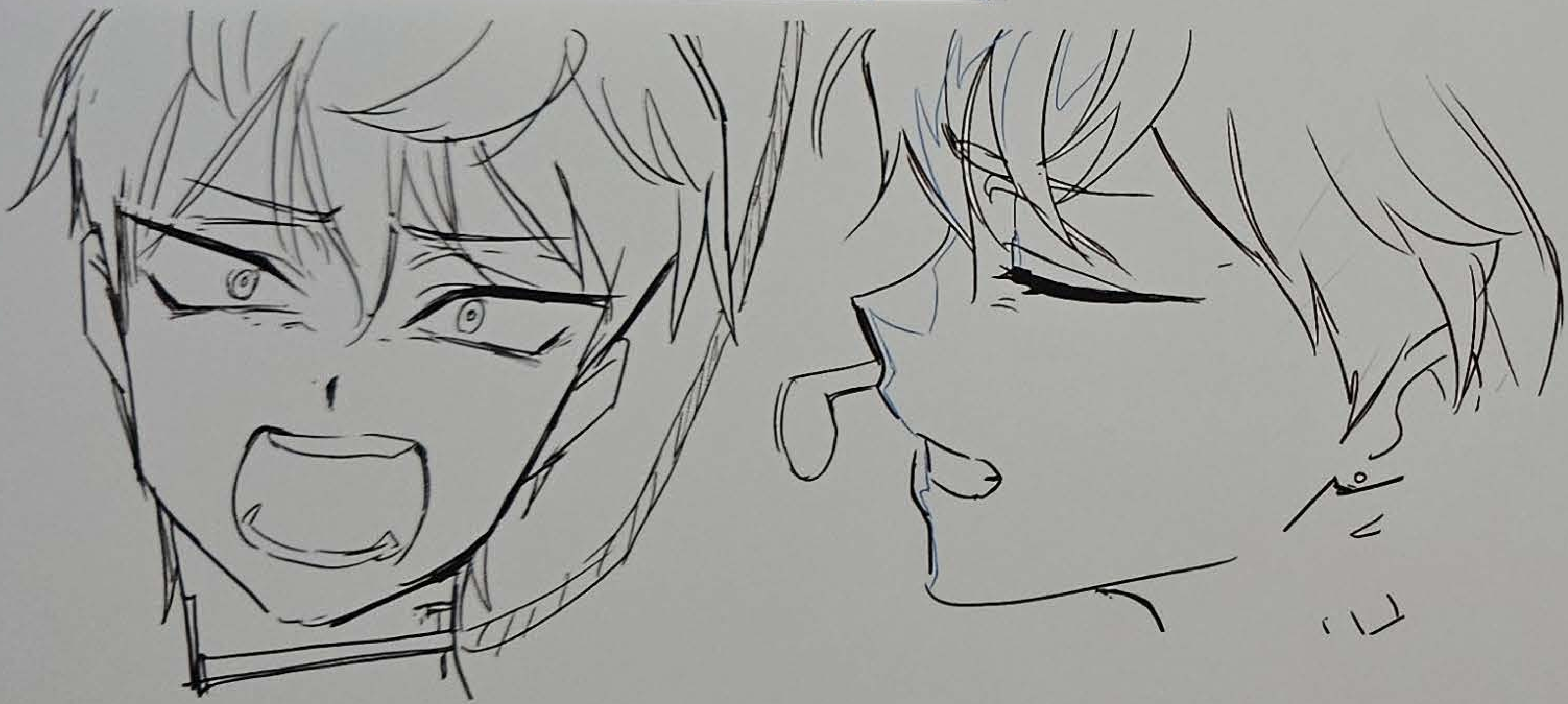
We wanted to have a completely different feel from ROUND 1, so we chose a rock song. We wanted to show off Till's uncool crush and his brazen, oddball, genius artist tendencies at the same time. Because the image of Till that we wanted to show was very clear, we had a lot of fun making this episode without too many issues.

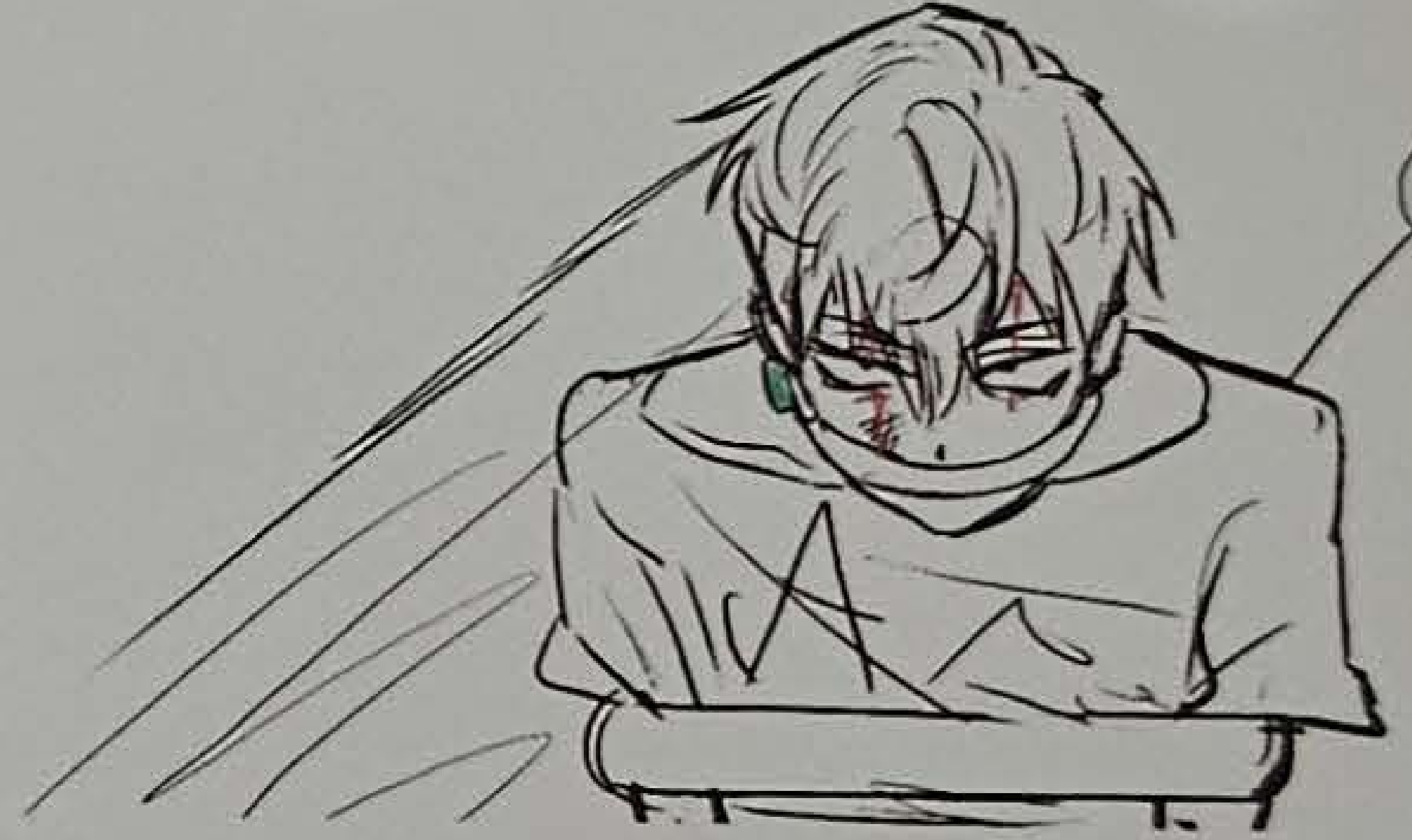


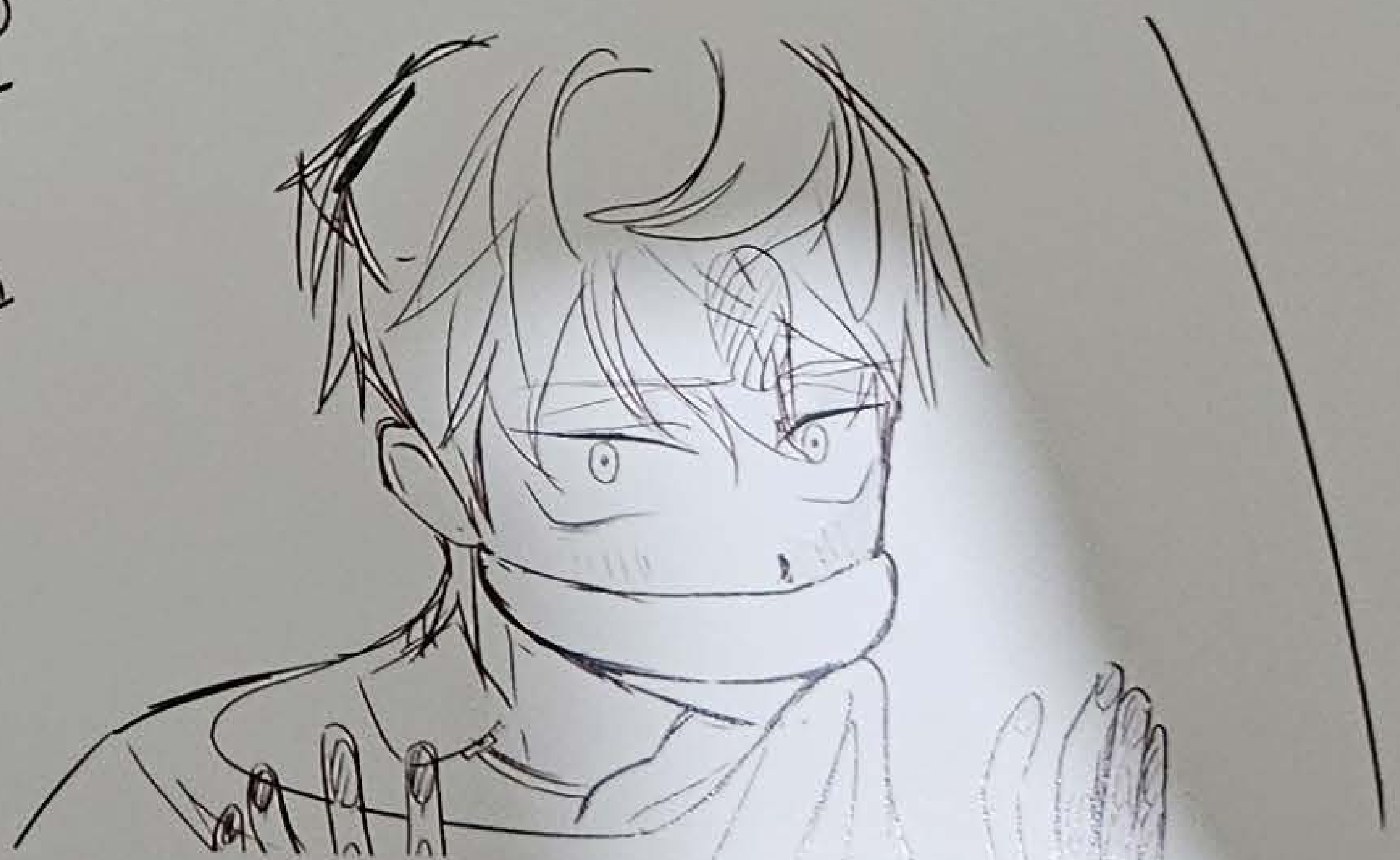
순저



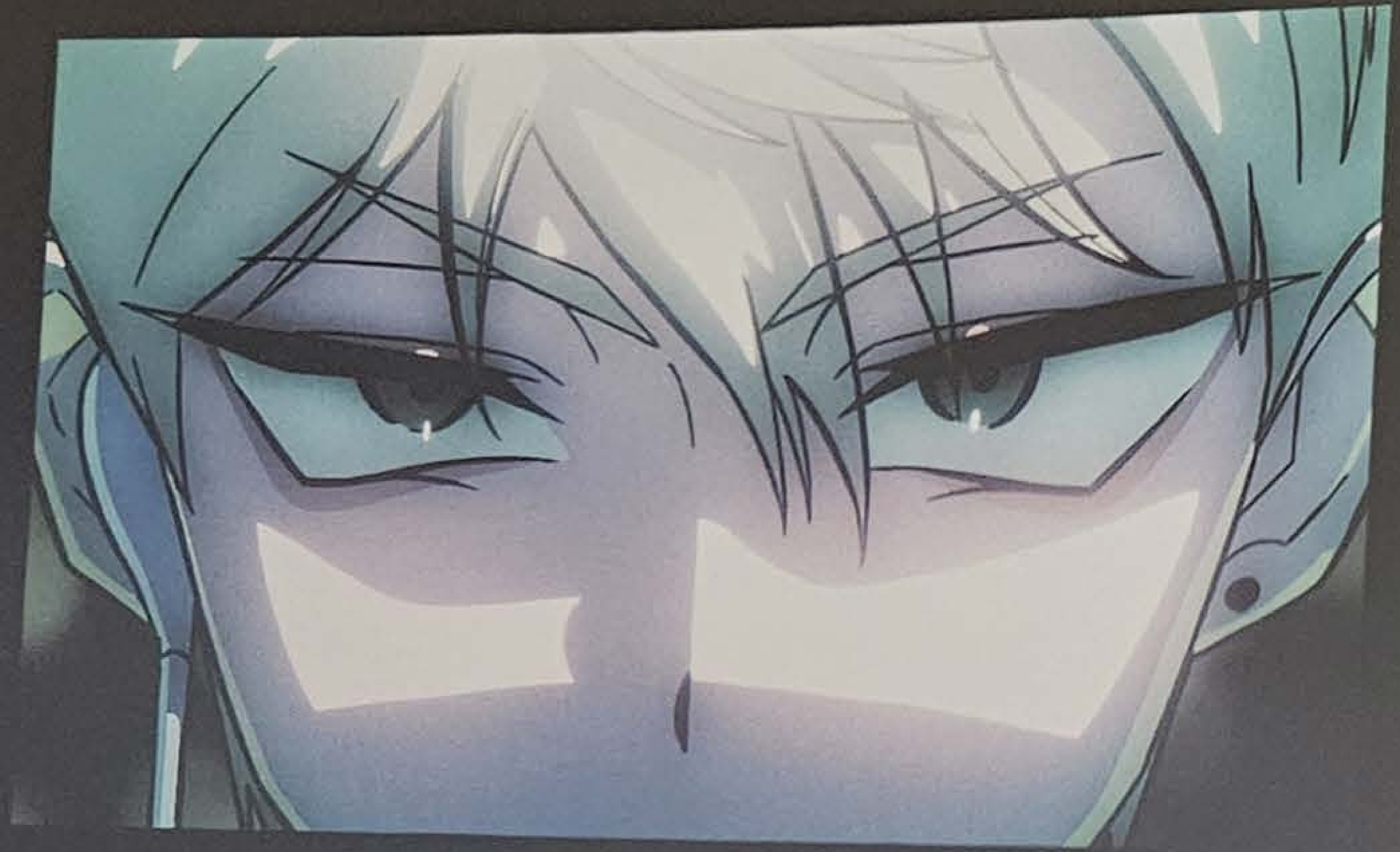




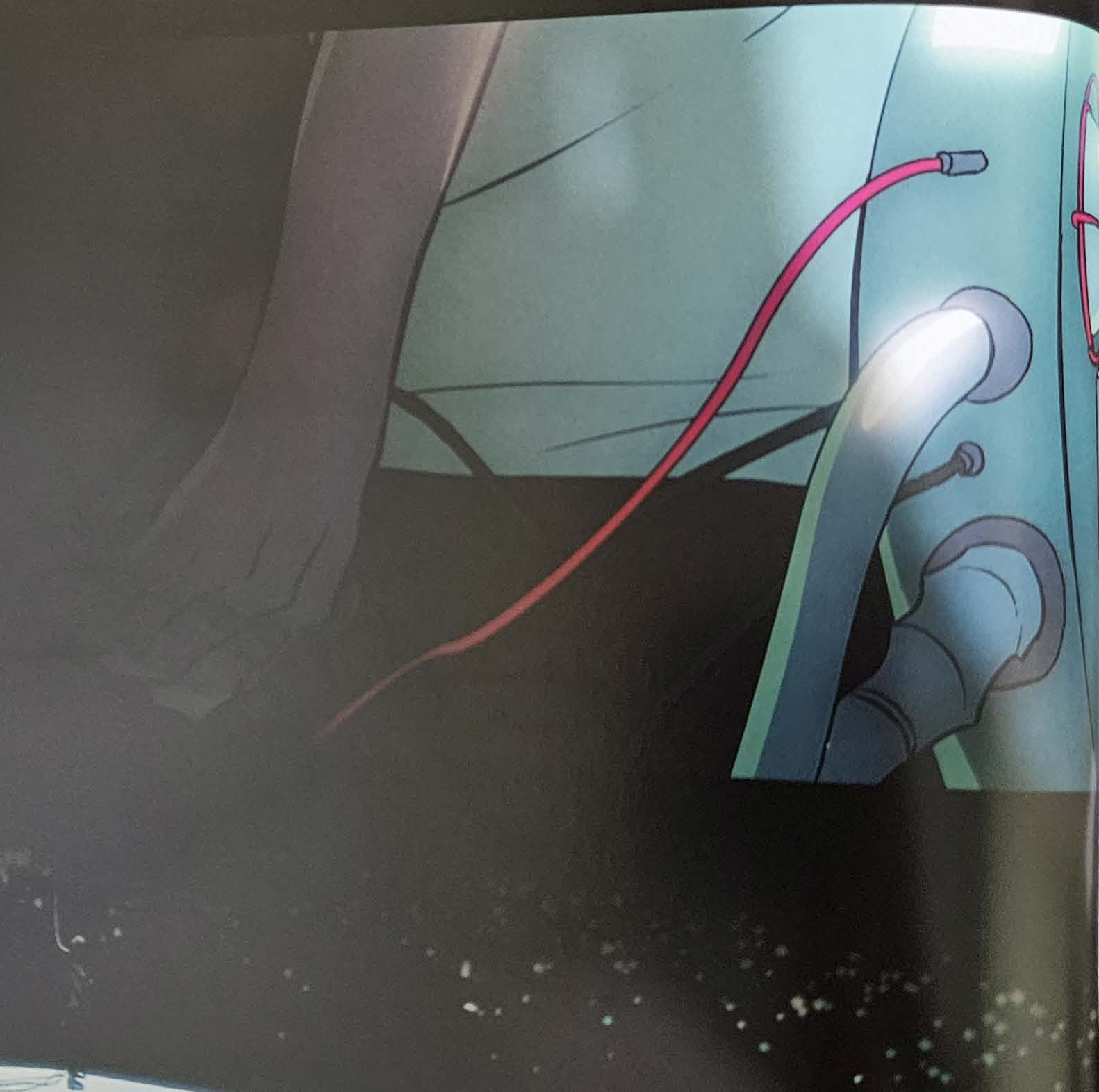


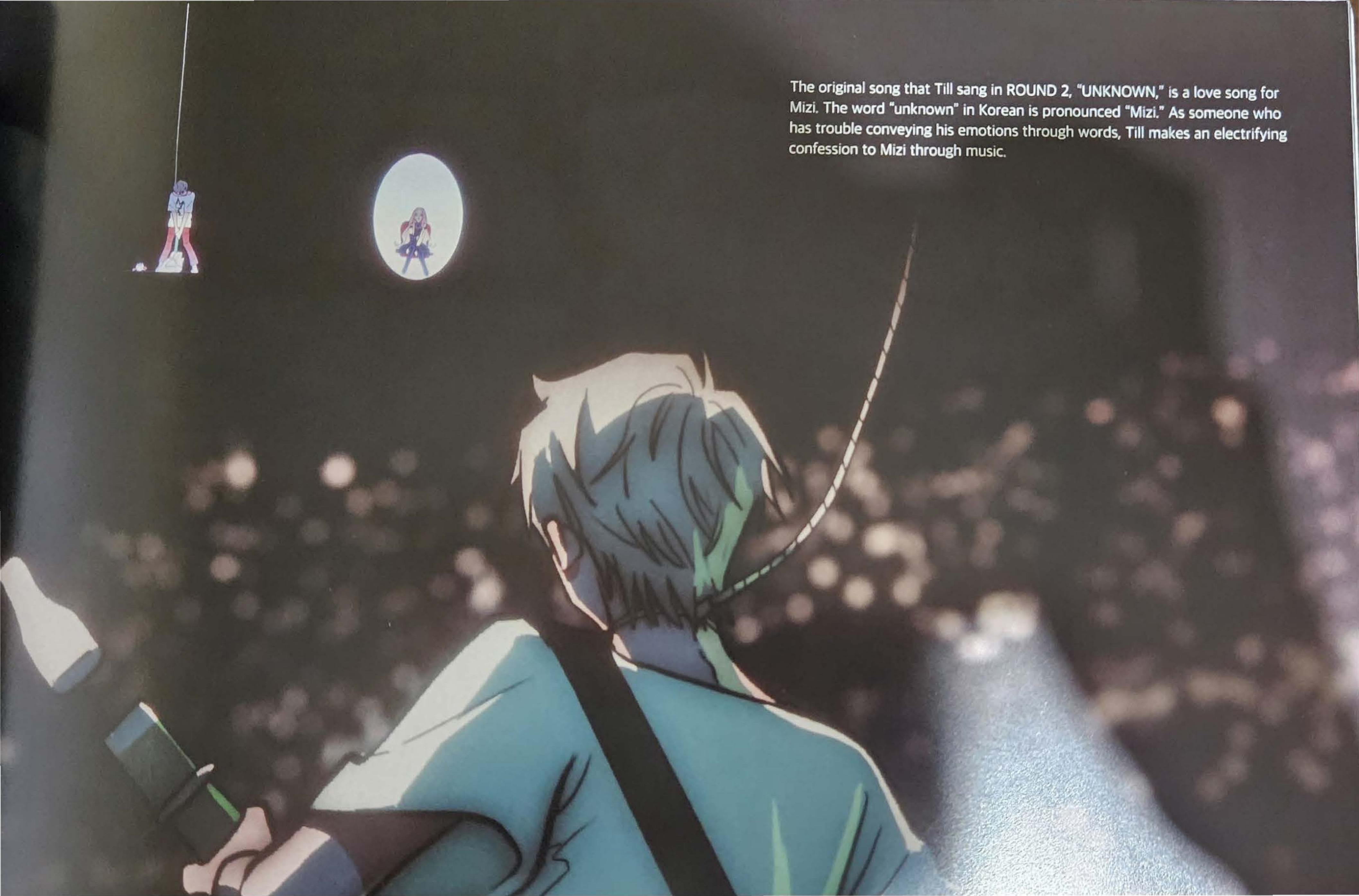


◆ As the character with the biggest range of emotions, there was a lot of importance placed on capturing Till's story through his expressions. We wanted to show a variety of faces in the video to show the audience his rebelliousness, his pure obsession with music, and his love for Mizi.

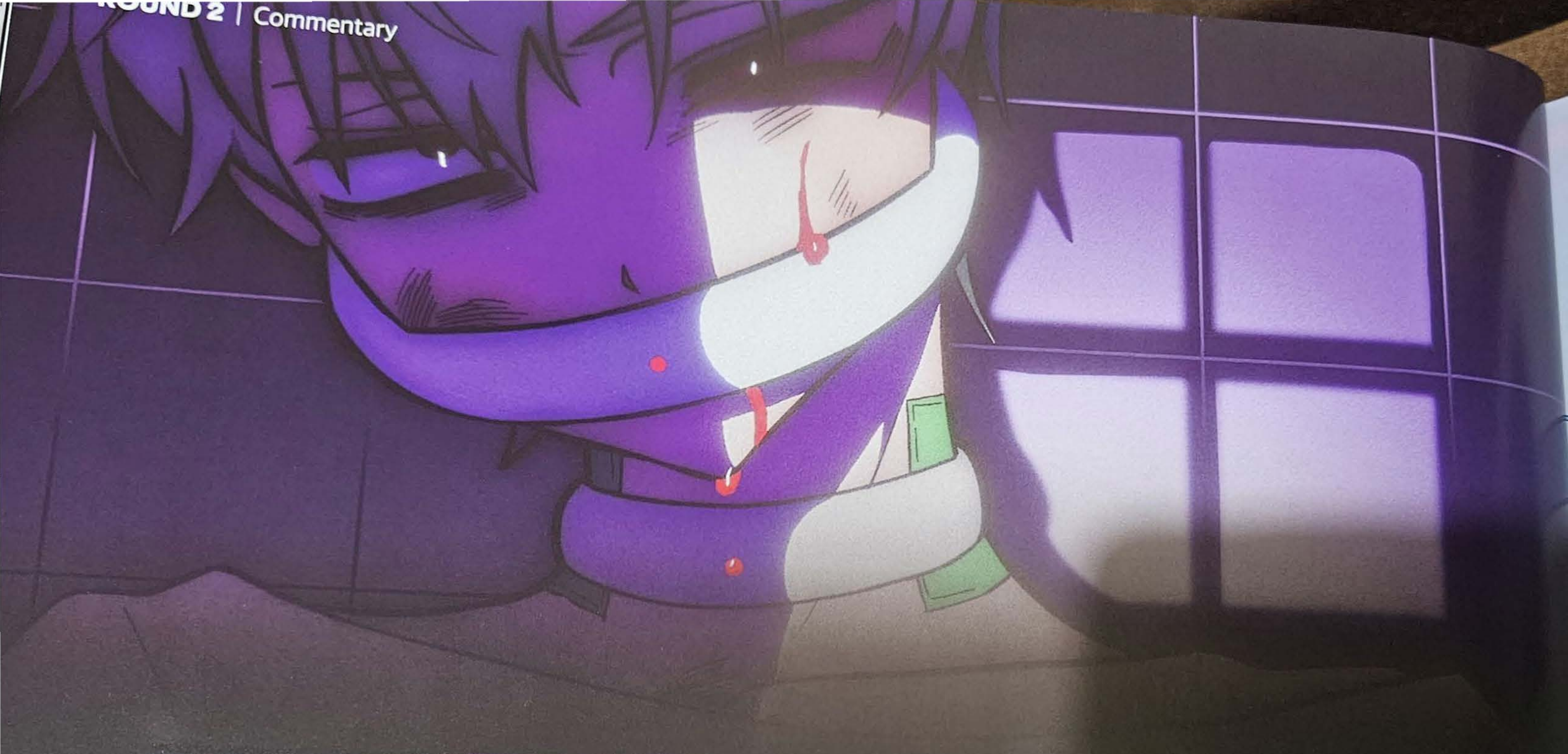


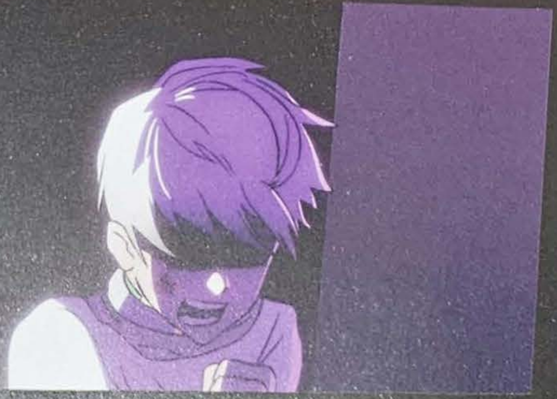
Till was originally supposed to sing a different song, but he ignored orders and played his own music, changing the flow of the performance. Participants in Alien Stage have always been obedient, so this is an irregular occurrence.

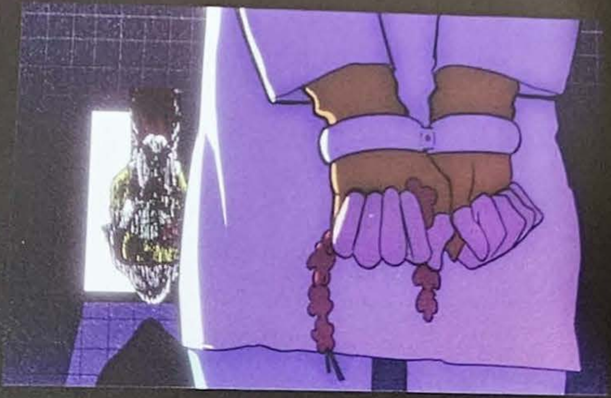




The original song that Till sang in ROUND 2, "UNKNOWN," is a love song for Mizi. The word "unknown" in Korean is pronounced "Mizi." As someone who has trouble conveying his emotions through words, Till makes an electrifying confession to Mizi through music.

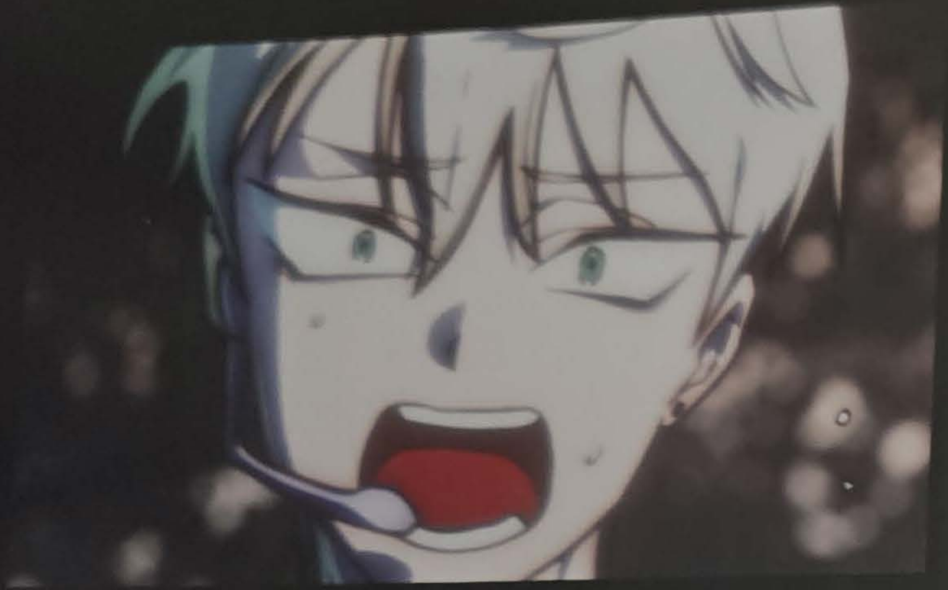


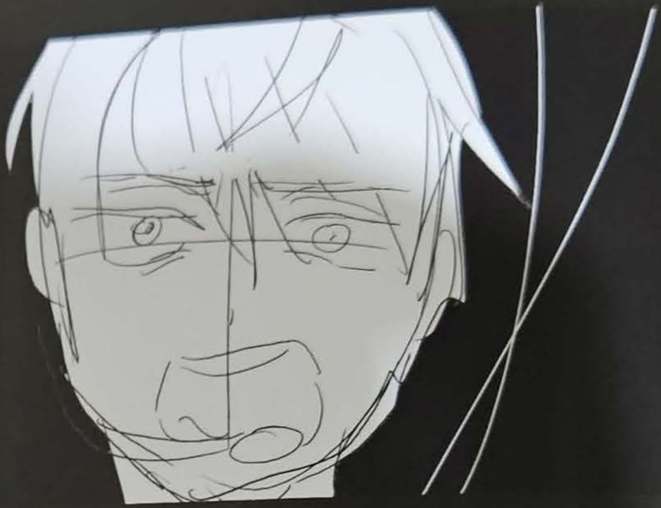




Till has been abused by Urak ever since he was little. Whenever times got tough, he would endure by looking at the Anakt artificial flowers that Mizi loved so much. Till would get his explosive emotional energy from **thinking about Mizi.**

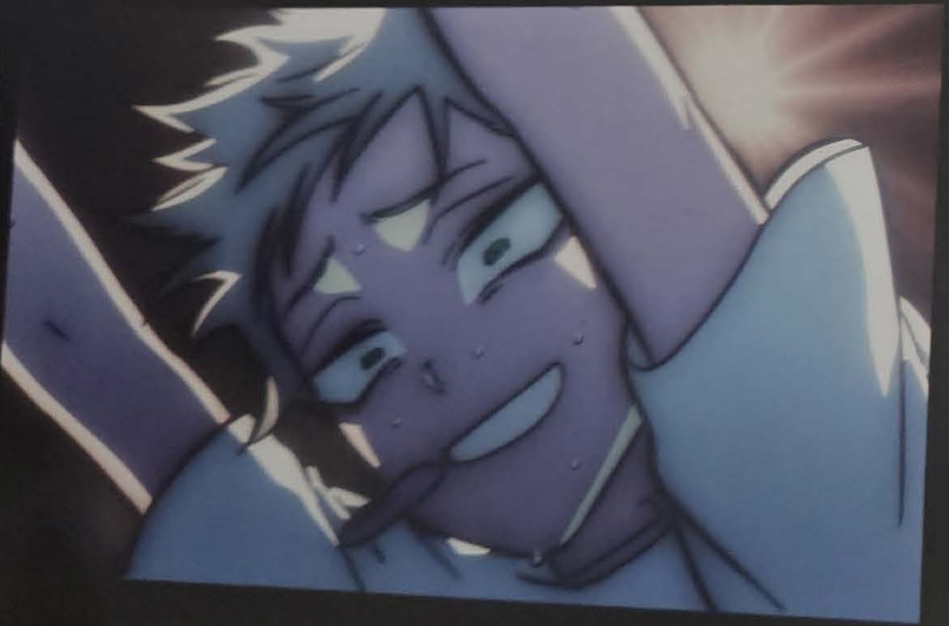
Till has always had trouble sleeping, but his restlessness got worse once he became a teenager and began having all kinds of thoughts in his head. Whenever insomnia would keep him awake, he would have to expend his energy creating new music in order to fall asleep. He enjoys doodling and would often draw in random places. Sometimes, he would become emotional and write poems as well. (Usually about Mizi.)

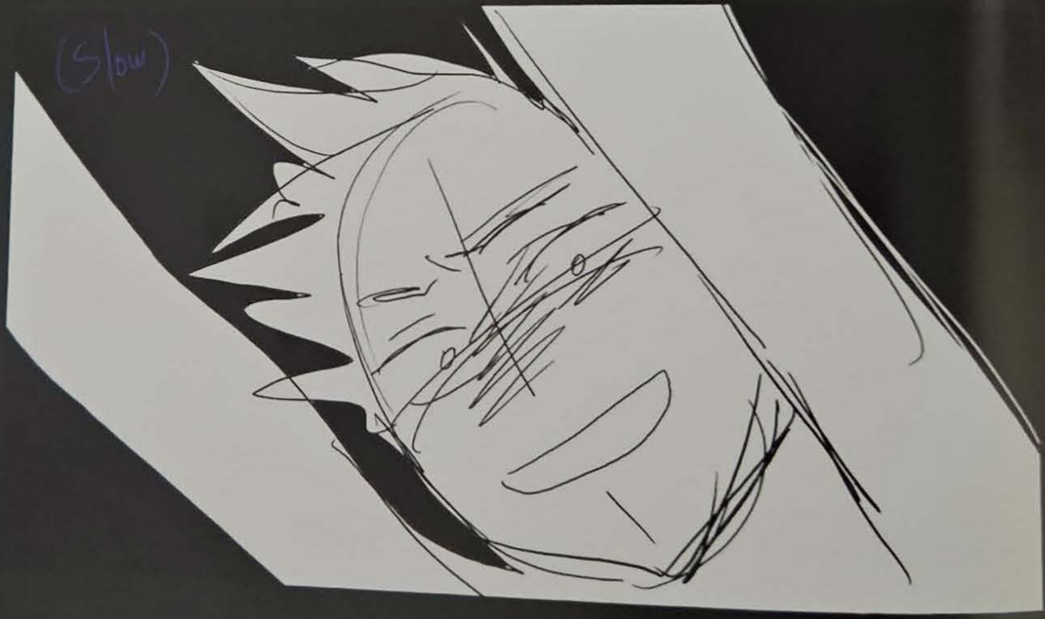




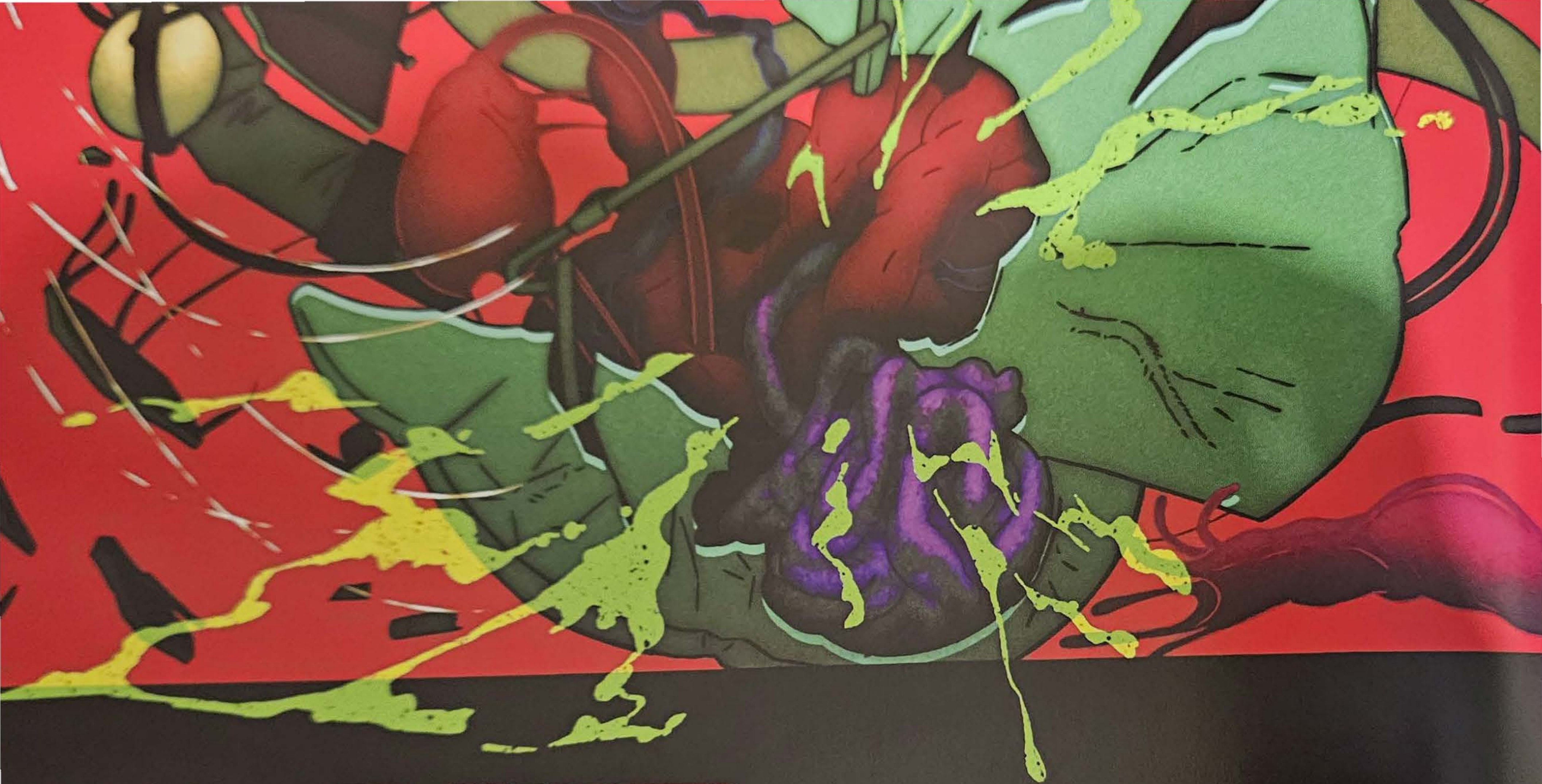
▲ Round 2 storyboard

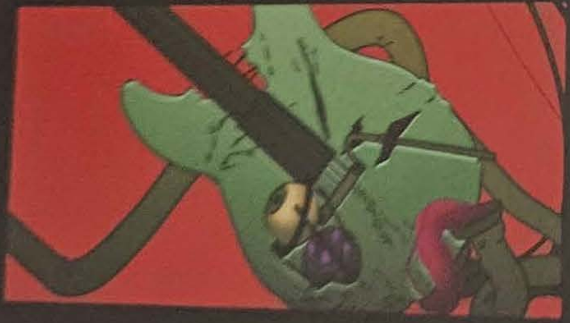
Director QMENG commented, “Doesn’t he look ugly?” on the storyboard, but it was kept since this sort of expression captured Till’s shortcomings very well.



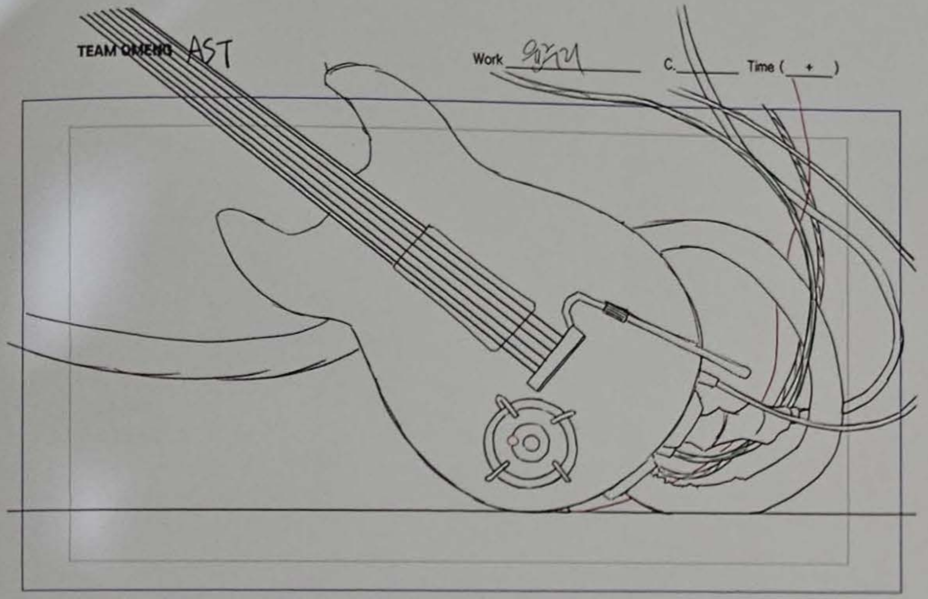


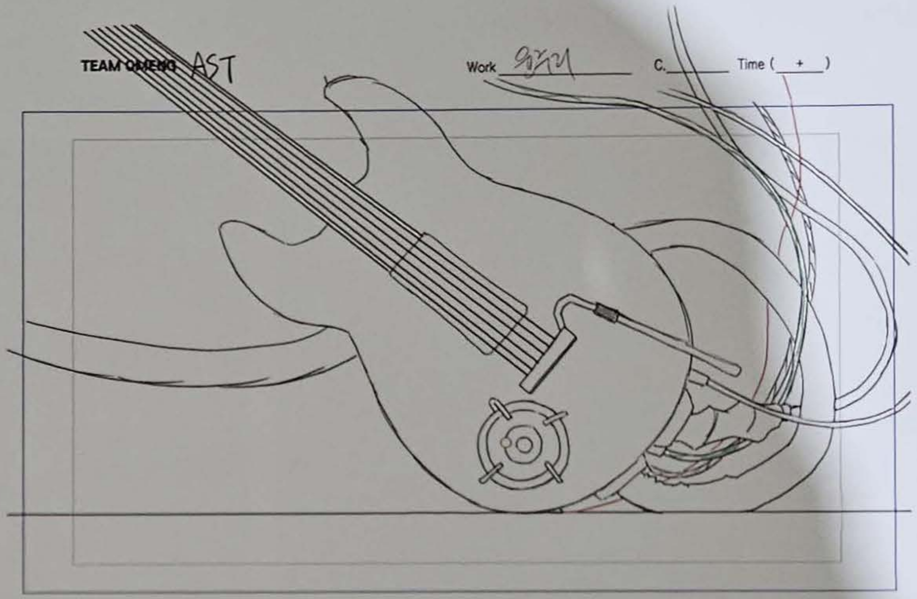
▲ Round 2 storyboard





Viewership for Alien Stage skyrocketed due to the shocking "Segyein murder performance" in ROUND 2. Till's initially high ratings plummeted after this incident, but he managed to secure some hardcore fans and brought his ratings back up.


TEAM OMENG AST
Work 외계
C.
Time (+)


TEAM OMENG AST
Work 외계
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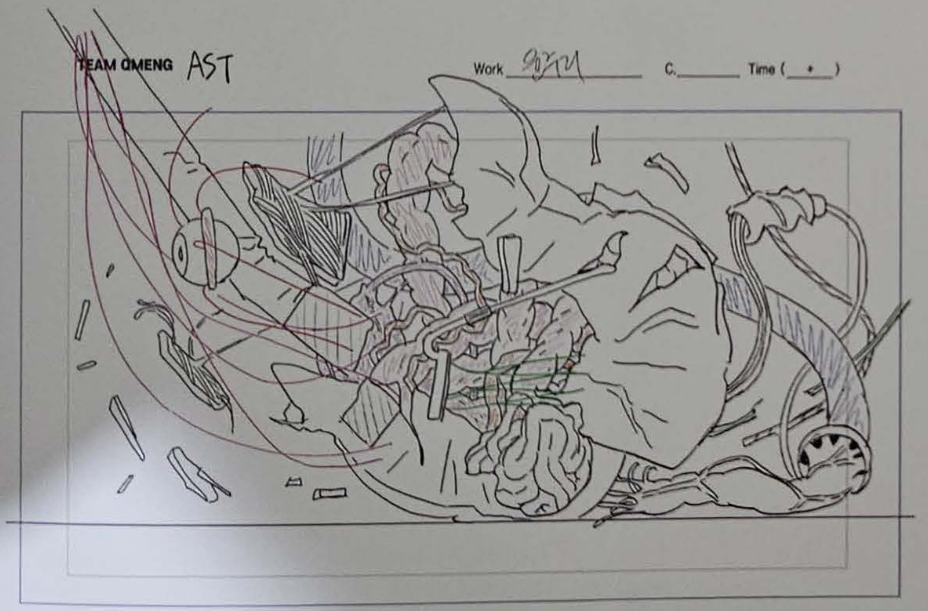
Time (+)


TEAM OMENG AST
Work 외계
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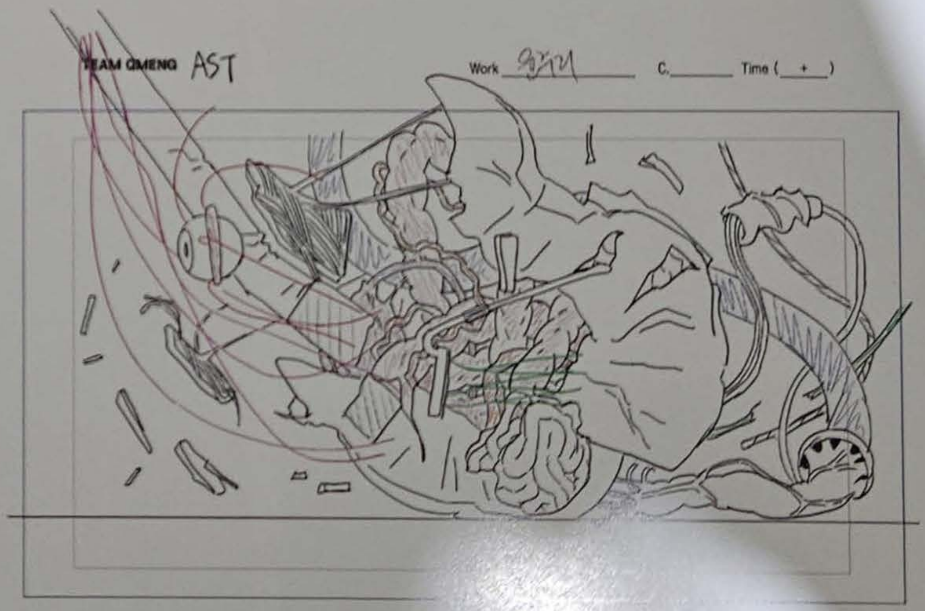
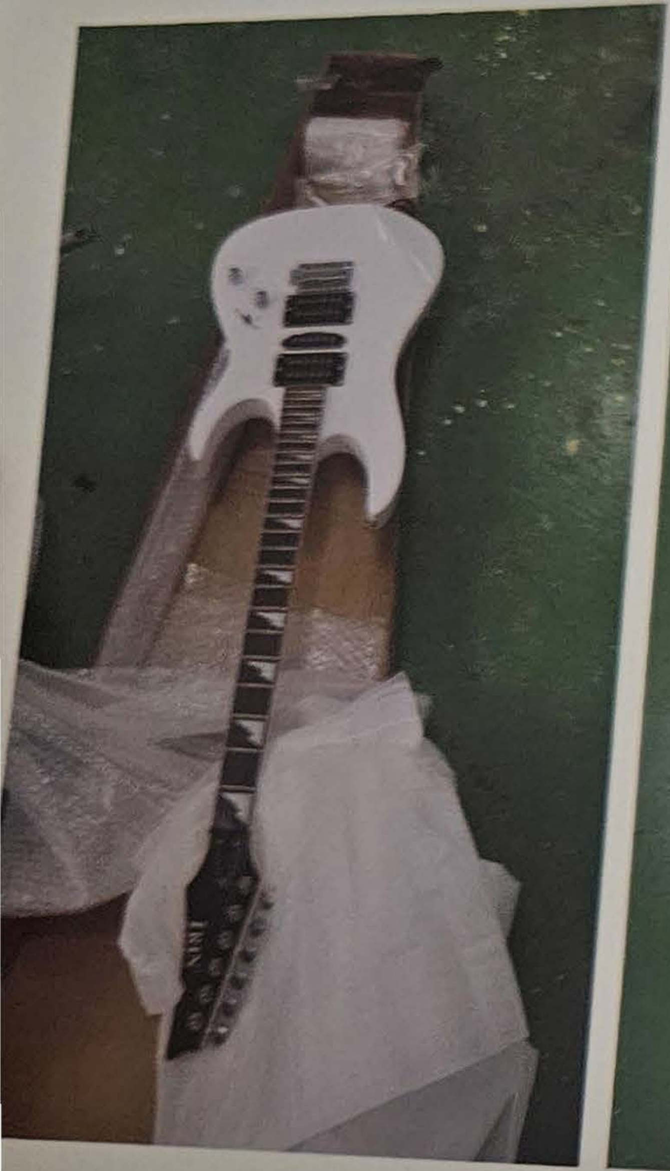
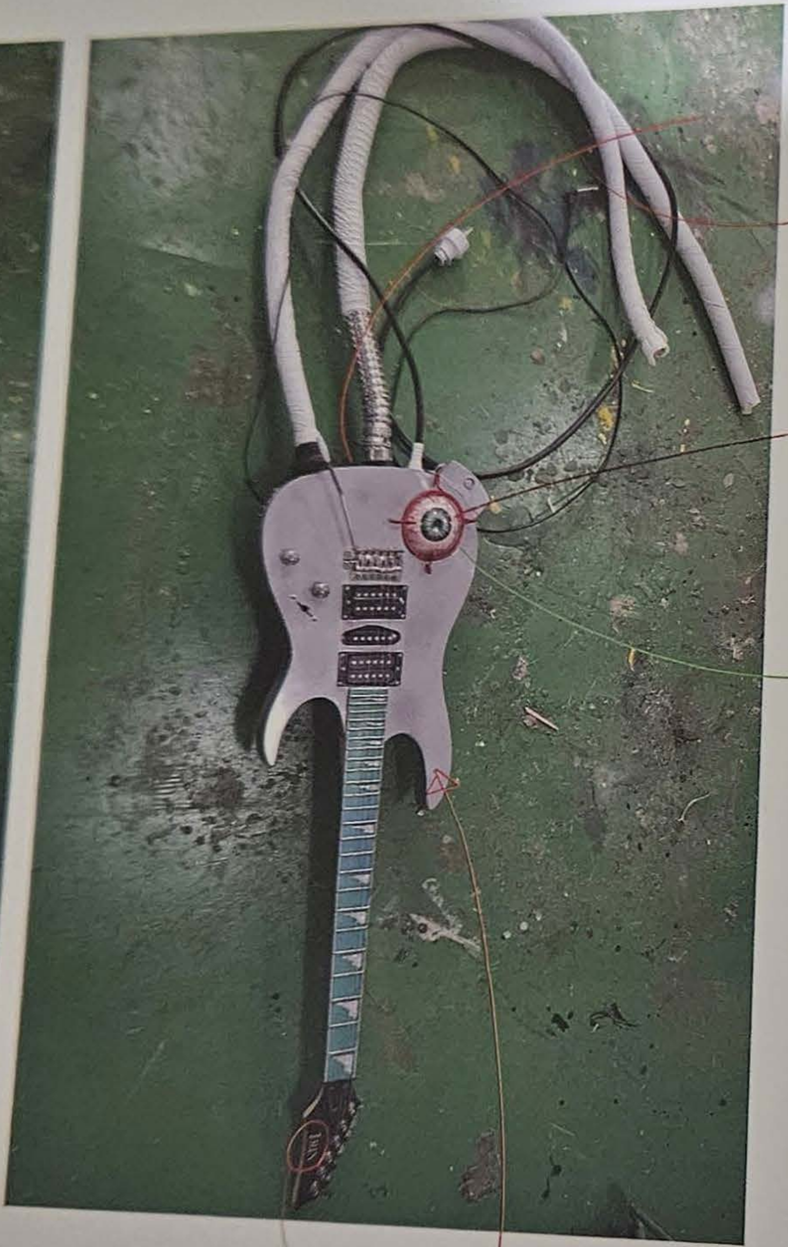
Time (+)


TEAM OMENG AST
Work 외계
C.
Time (+)

◇ The Segyein murder performance that became the most-viewed scene! We needed a scene that was both gross and hit the viewer with a visual shock, so we made a complicated guitar alien design.





1.
빨간전선 하나
추가해주실수 있나요!

2.
눈에 빨간 핏줄 조금 줄일수
있나요!

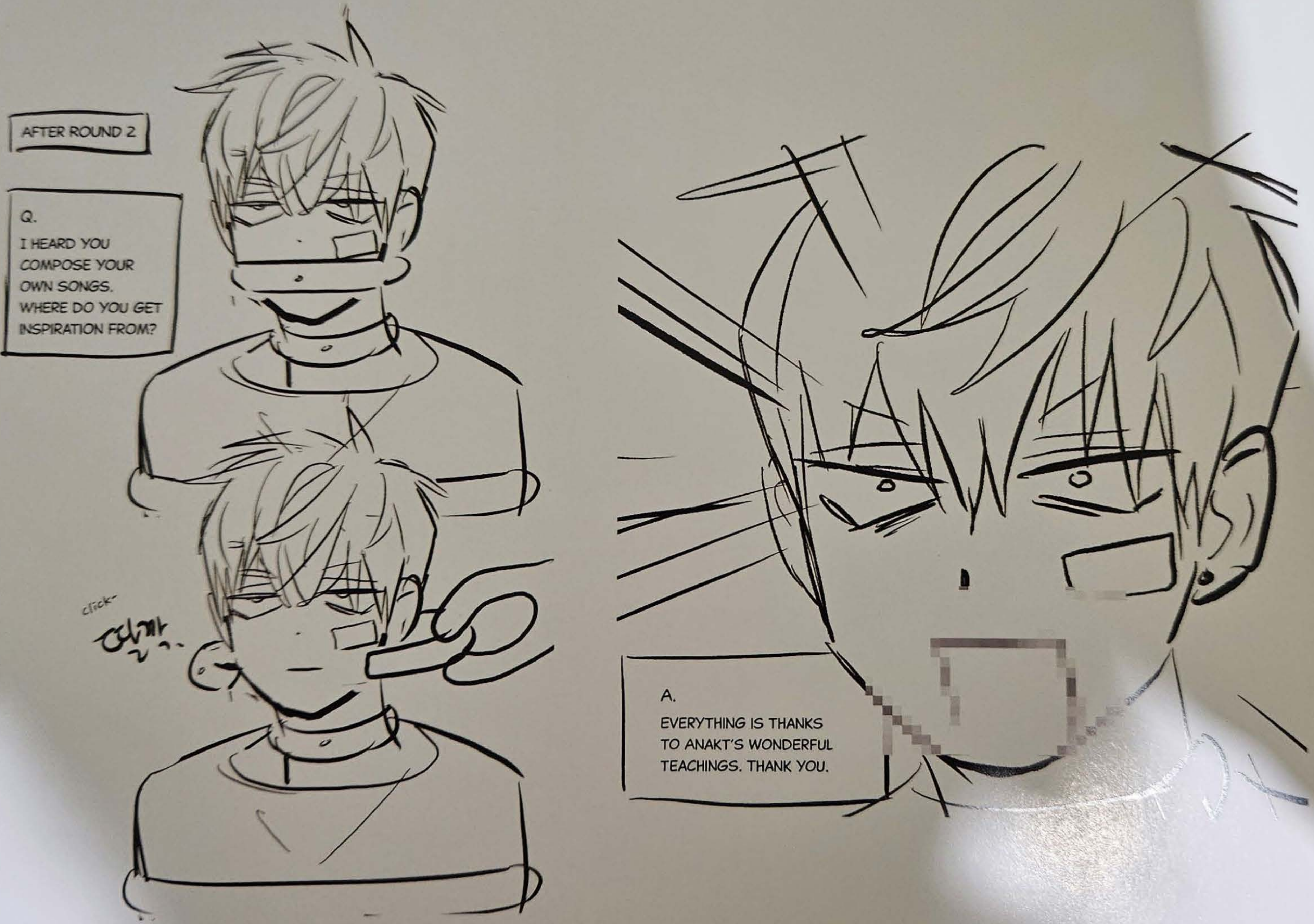
3.
진짜고무가 맞는거요?

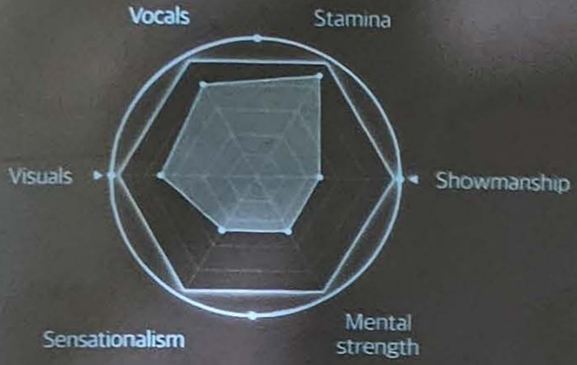
4. 글자 없애고

이 색깔과 같이 칠해주세요! 5.

1. *Can you include a red wire here?*
2. *Can you reduce how bloodshot the eyes are?*
3. *Is this really rubber?*
4. *Remove the letters*
5. *Please paint this color as well!*

✧ Co-Director QMENG had a real-life Freddie custom-made for the 1-year Anniversary *Alien Stage* Pop-up store! A real electric guitar was used in its creation. When played, the guitar makes a loud noise, and the eyeball moves.


AFTER ROUND 2
Q.
I HEARD YOU COMPOSE YOUR OWN SONGS. WHERE DO YOU GET INSPIRATION FROM?
click-
딸깍..
A.
EVERYTHING IS THANKS TO ANAKT'S WONDERFUL TEACHINGS. THANK YOU.



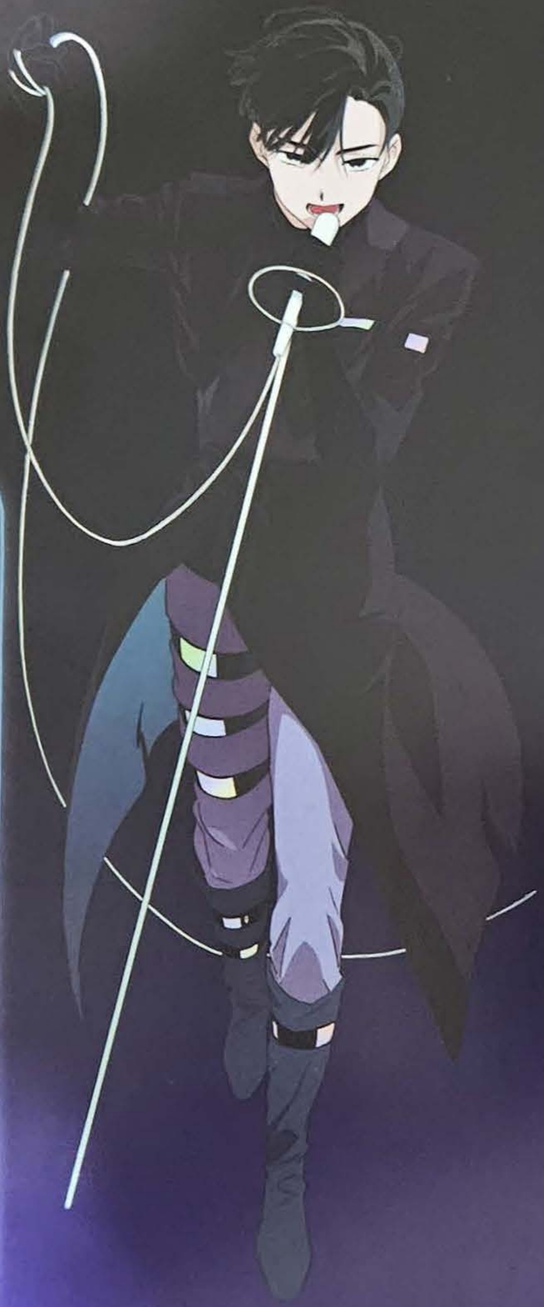
CHARACTER COMMENT

#UpbeatEmo #ModelStudent
#FromTheSlums #ESTJ

PRO FILE

Birthday	0214
Born	Slums
Age	22
Height/Weight	6'1" / 172lbs
Blood Type	RH+B
ID Number	010310
Affiliation	Anakt Garden 50th Class
Owner	Unsha
Likes	Classic Literature
Dislikes	Ignorance and disrespect
Talent	Striking rocks to start fires
MBTI	ESTJ

With good looks and a gentle personality combined with professional skill, Ivan is the top pet human for investors. He is also exceptional at taking care of his fandom, so he is considered to have the highest brand value out of all the contestants.



Human Relationships

Till

Closeness 100% ▸ 1st ◂

He's the most interesting. He's the type of person I can't understand at all. I'm not expecting anything, but I do wish I were the most significant thing on his mind.

Sua

Closeness 60% ▸ 2nd ◂

It feels like Sua is avoiding me a bit, but I'm still pretty fond of her. I wonder if this is what it feels like to have a sister?

Mizi

Closeness 30% ▸ 3rd ◂

I like Mizi's innocence without pretense. Even though you'd think she would start waking up to the reality of her situation as she got older. But sometimes... her brightness is hard to deal with.

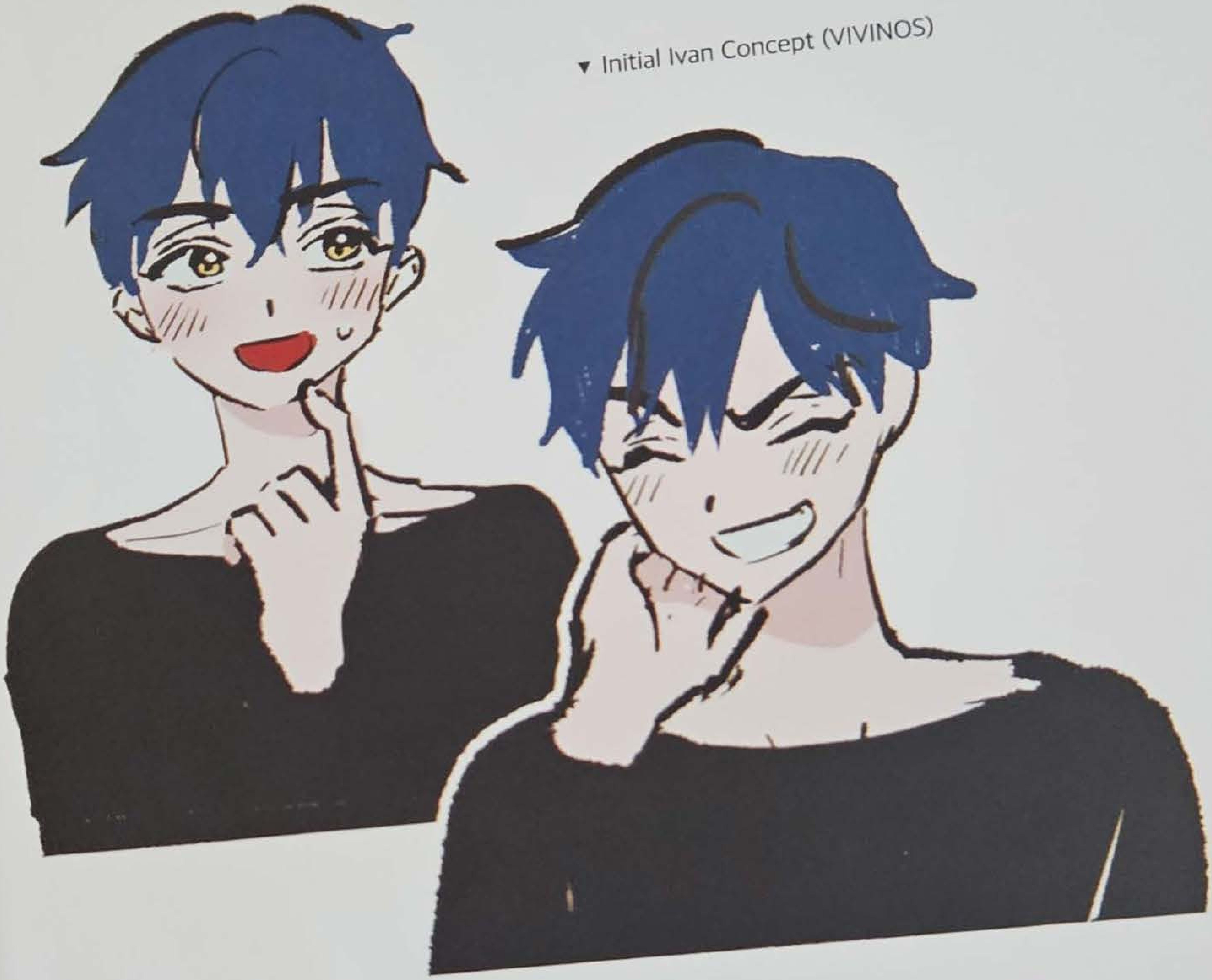
Personality

Gloomy

Perhaps due to his rough upbringing in the slums, his psychological development was slower than the other children's. Before he caught up to the average height of the other kids, he would often try to take matters into his own hands with tricks, thievery, and other incomprehensibly antisocial behavior. However, as he grew older, he began hiding his true self to the point that now no one knows what Ivan is really like inside his twisted and warped mind.

Smile

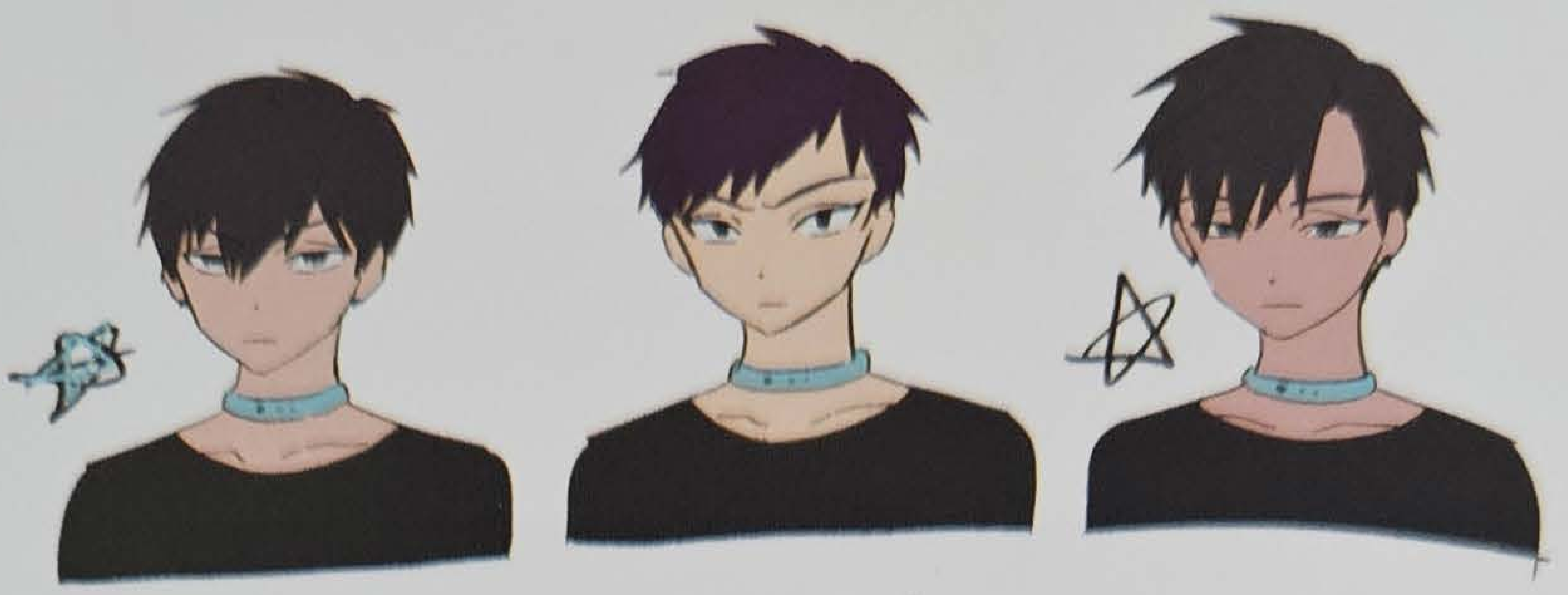
Having learned survival instincts before anything else as a child, Ivan became a master at gauging other people's reactions. He would always observe his surroundings and choose the path that would hurt him the least. And the thing that helped this the most was smiling. To the other children, his seemingly carefree smile came off as both secretive and mature. This wasn't his intention, but by the time they graduated there were quite a few children who admired Ivan.



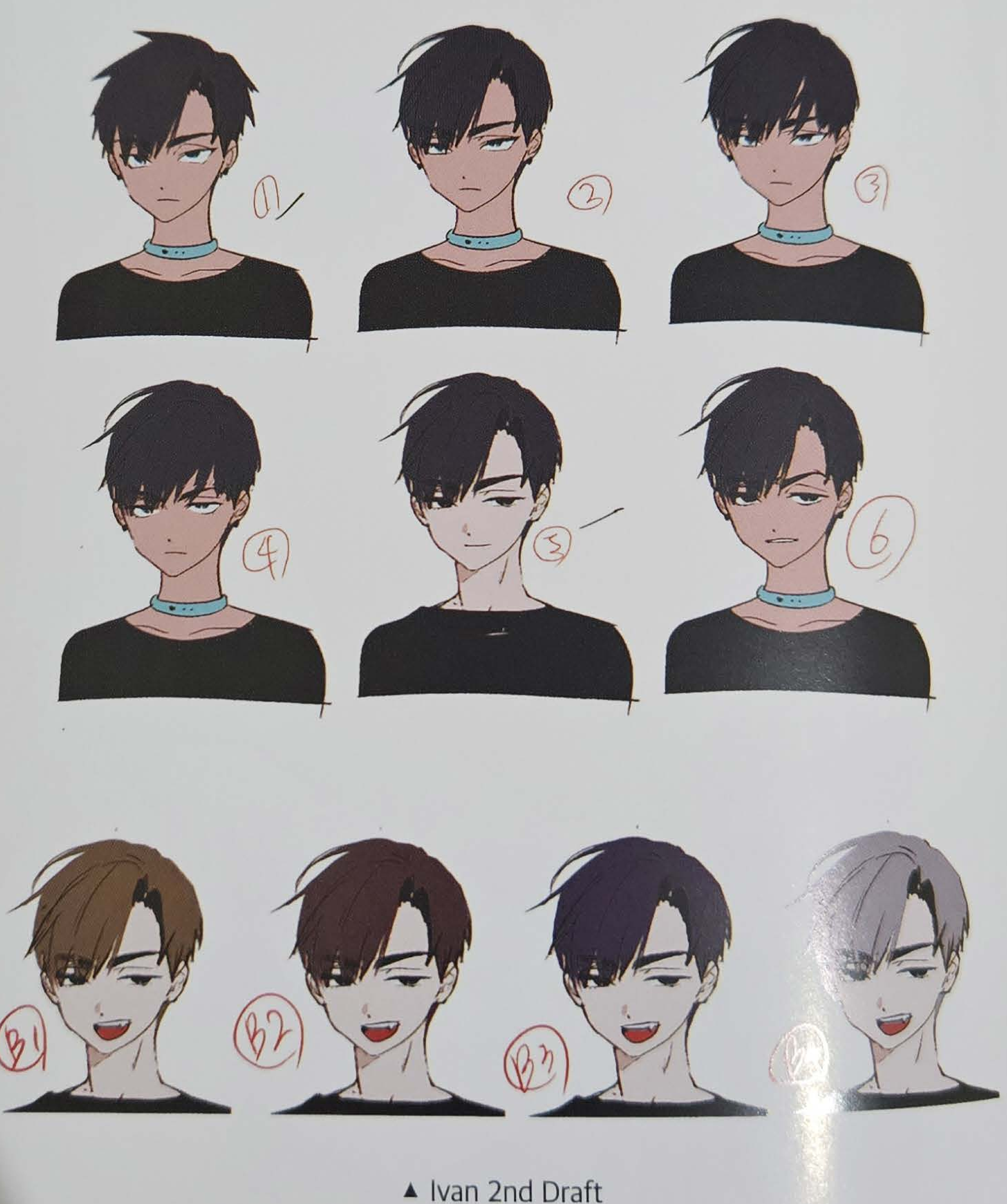
▼ Initial Ivan Concept (VIVINOS)

Early Concept

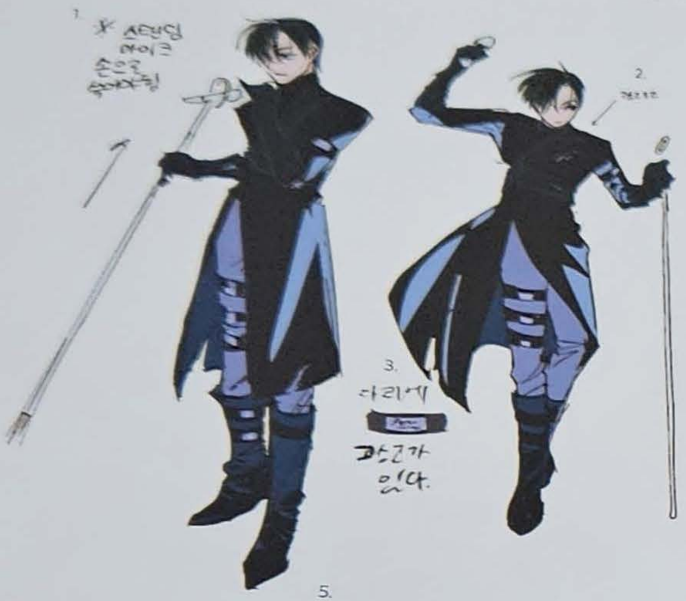
The kind and caring "older brother" type. He was designed with curly hair, reminiscent of a large dog. Like the current Ivan, the early Ivan was also empty on the inside and very negative about life. In the modern setting, he was a student at an esteemed college and loved to sing. We could imagine him singing an emotional ballad while playing the piano.

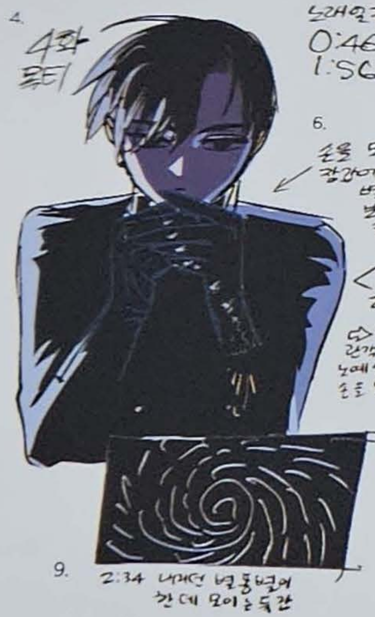


▲ Ivan 1st Draft

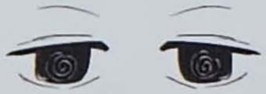

①
②
③
④
⑤
⑥
B1
B2
B3

▲ Ivan 2nd Draft

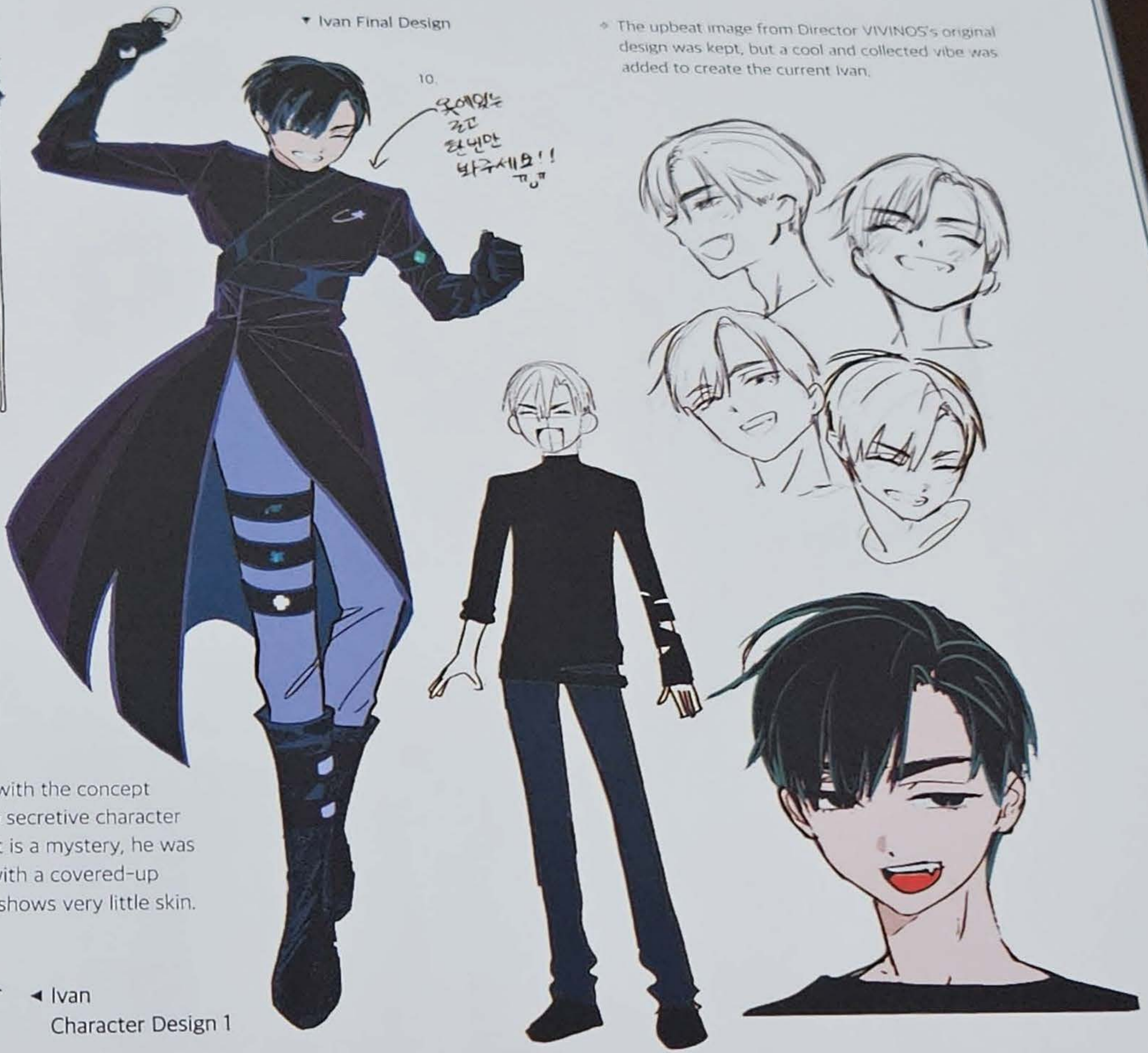

1.
※ 스탠딩 마이크 손으로 들어야함
2.
광고로고
3.
다리에 광고가 있다.


4.
4화 터틀
5.
노래얼굴컷
0:46
1:56이후
6.
손을 모았을때 장갑에 별이 보였으면 좋겠음.
7.
<기도 하듯이>
8.
⇨ 나중에 관객석의 노예인간들이 손을 모을 수 있게
9.
2:34 내리던 별똥별이 한데 모이는 듯한

◇ To line up with the concept that he is a secretive character whose past is a mystery, he was designed with a covered-up outfit that shows very little skin.



◂ Ivan
Character Design 1


10.
옷에 있는 로고 한번만 봐주세요!! ㅠㅠ

▾ Ivan Final Design

◇ The upbeat image from Director VIVINOS's original design was kept, but a cool and collected vibe was added to create the current Ivan.

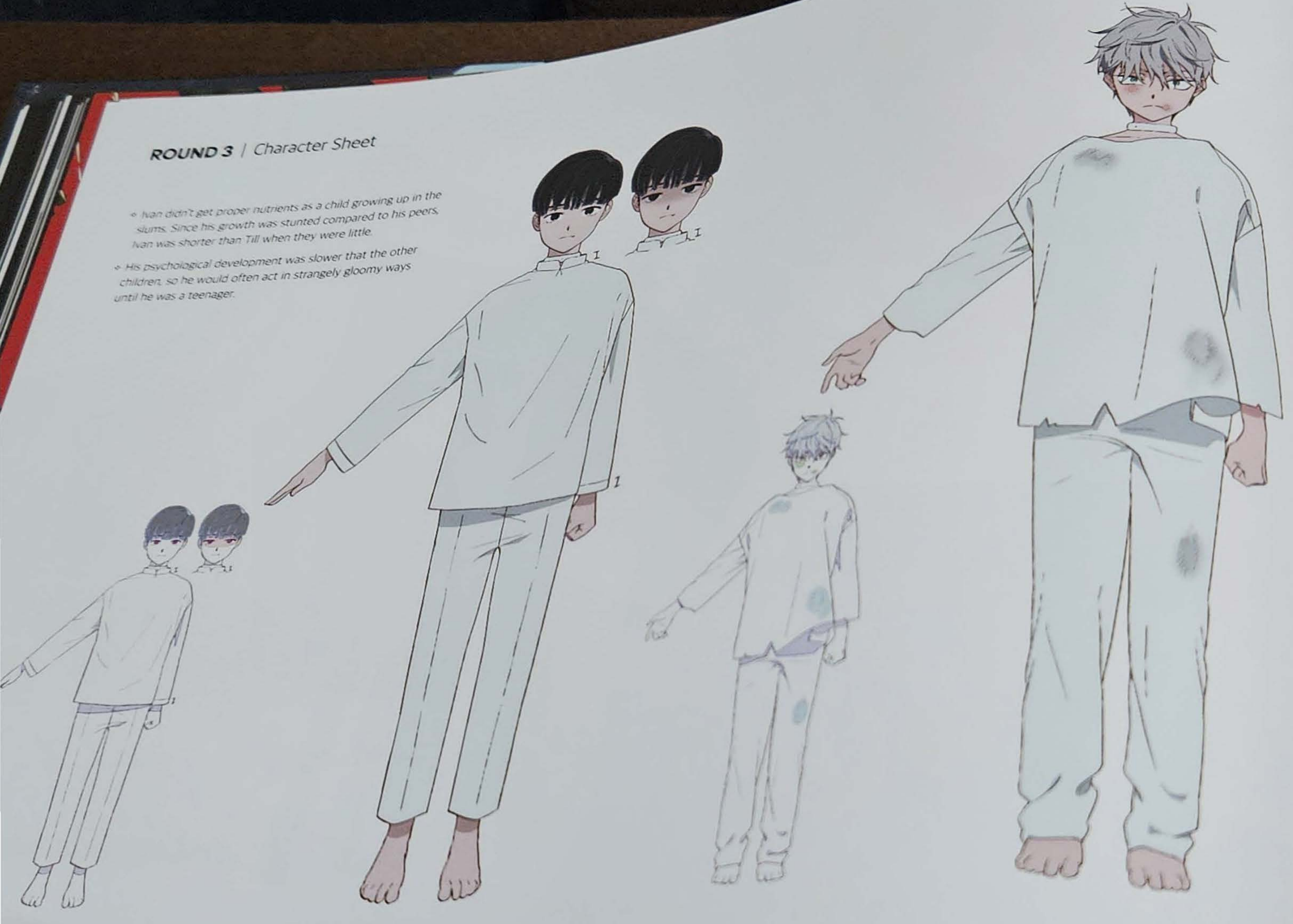
1. Standing mic. He needs to hold it. 2. Ad logo 3. There is an ad on the leg. 4. Episode 4 turtleneck 5. Cut to face after 0:46 and 1:56 6. Can see stars when the gloves are together 7. (As if he's praying) 8. Later, the slave humans in the audience can put their hands together. 9. 2:34 As if the shooting stars are gathering in one spot 10. Please take a look at the logo on his clothes!!

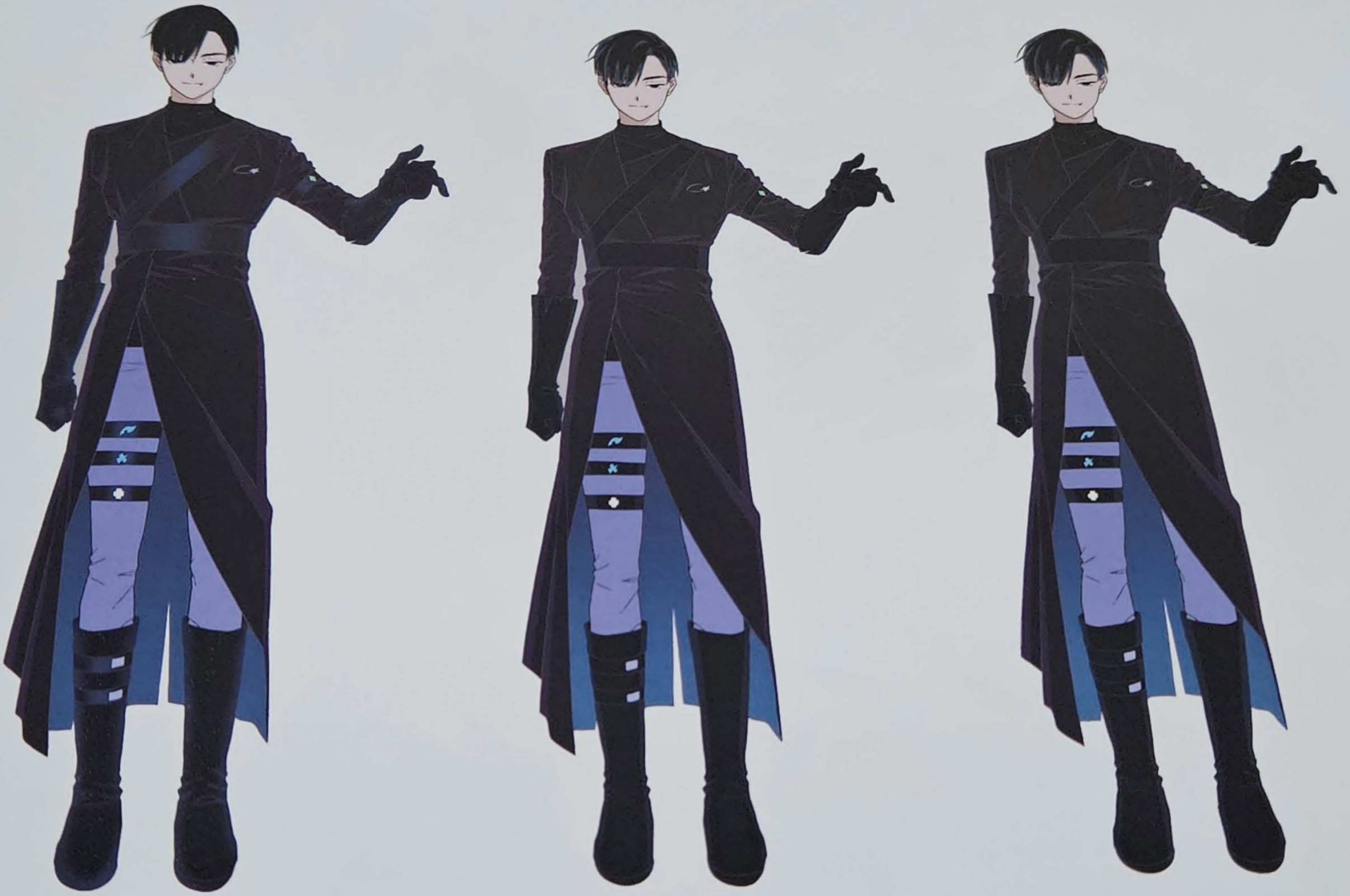
ROUND 3 | Character Sheet

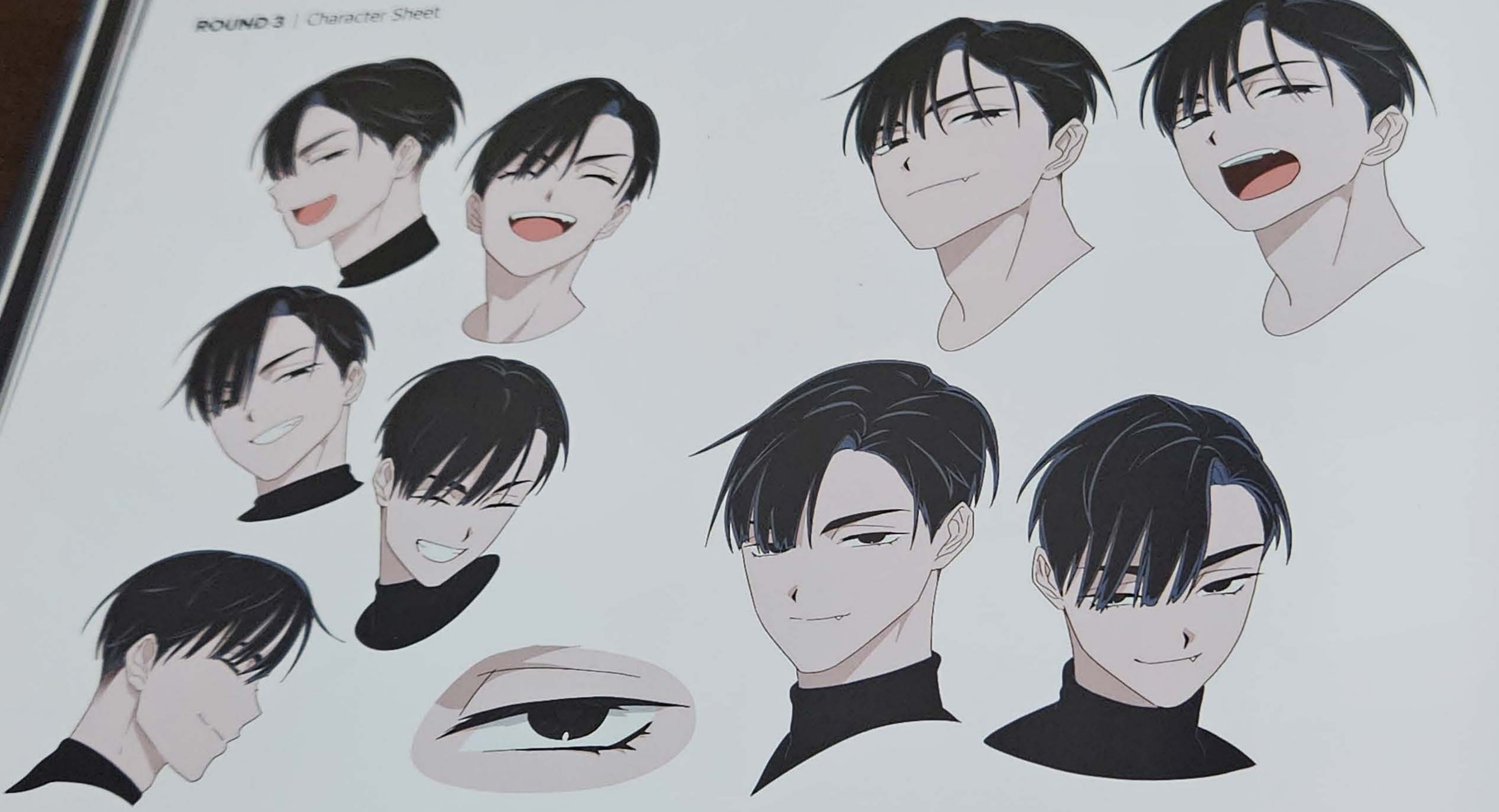
- Ivan didn't get proper nutrients as a child growing up in the slums. Since his growth was stunted compared to his peers, Ivan was shorter than Till when they were little.
- His psychological development was slower that the other children, so he would often act in strangely gloomy ways until he was a teenager.

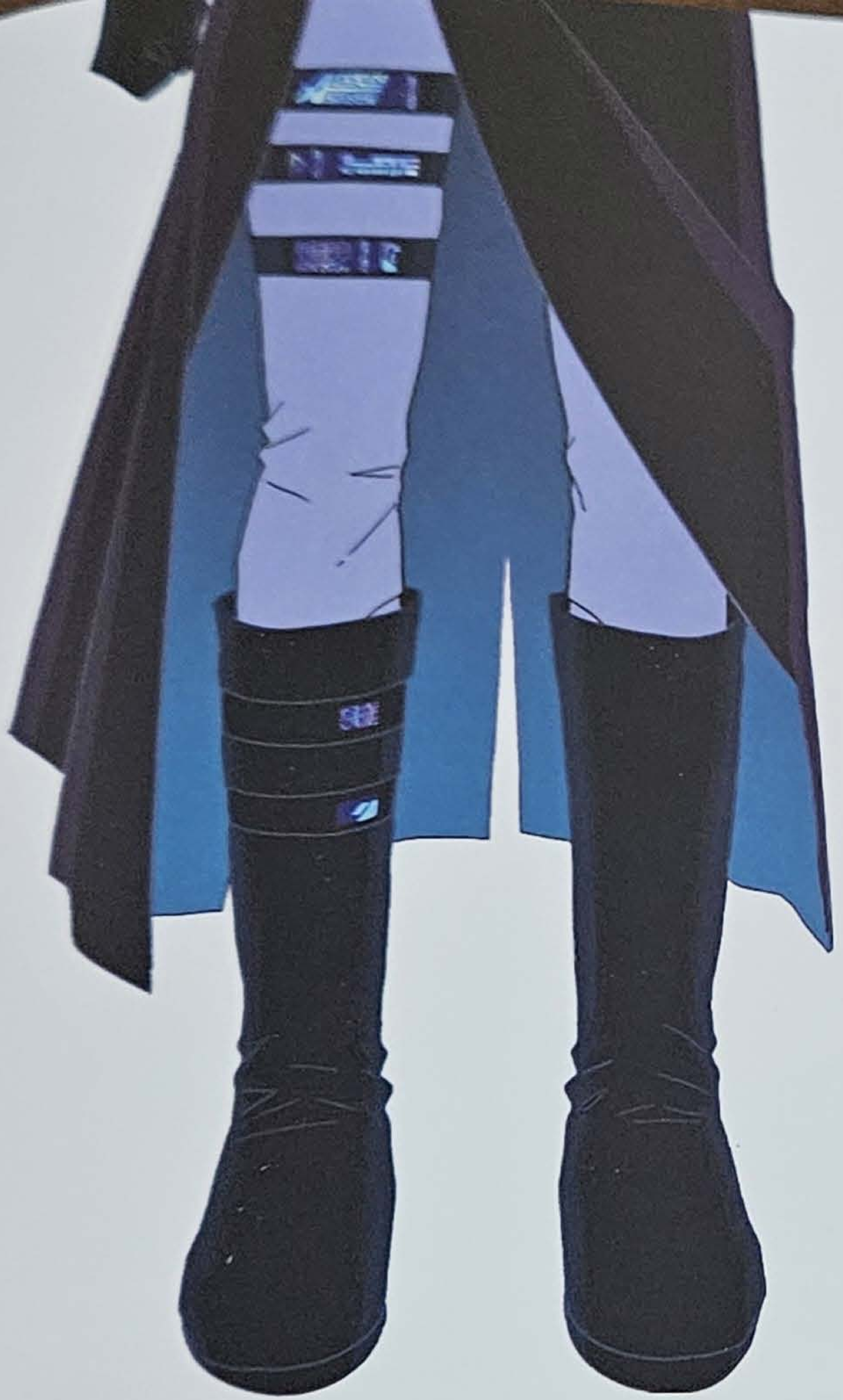
ROUND 3 | *Character Sheet*

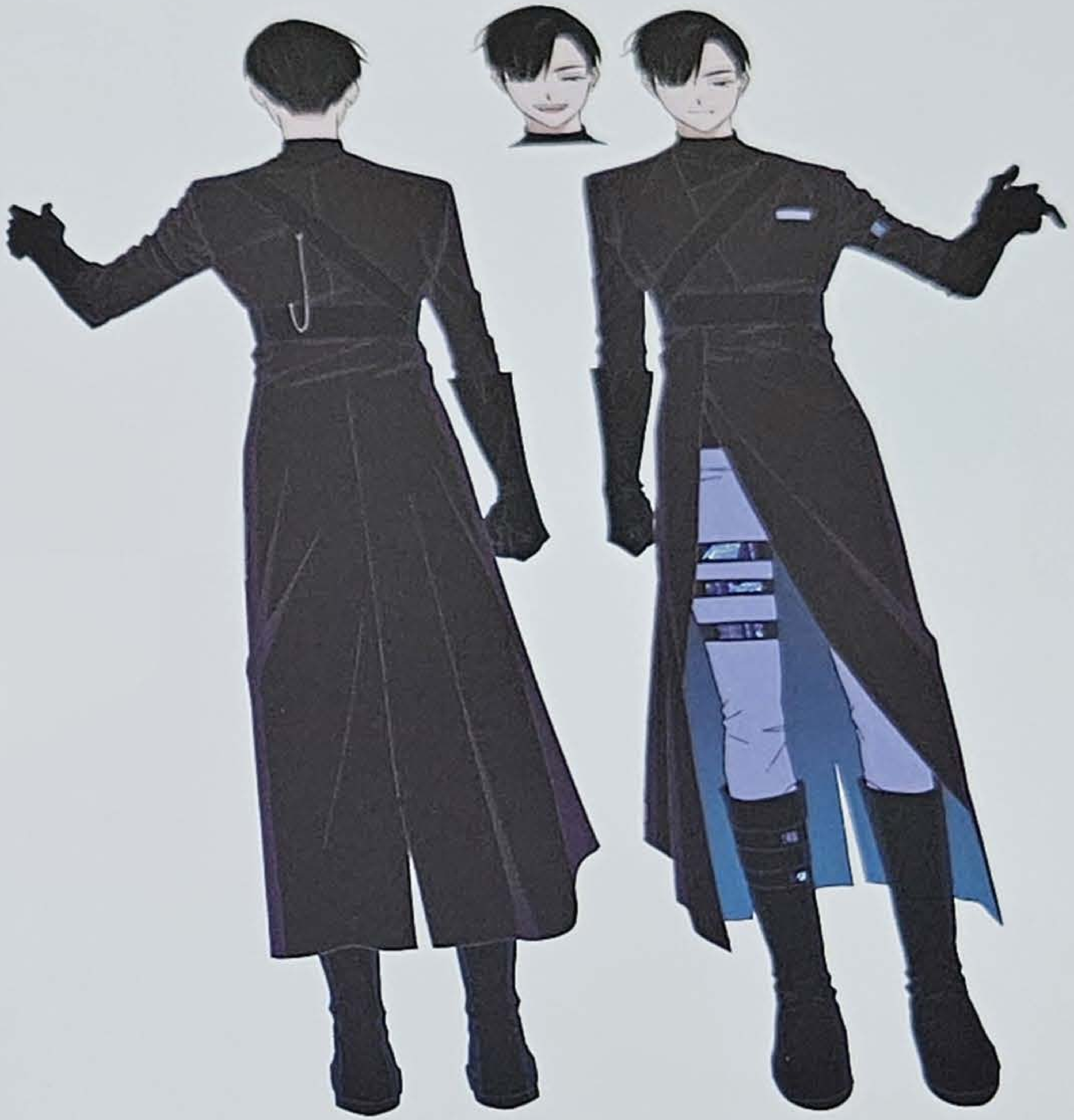
- *Ivan didn't get proper nutrients as a child growing up in the slums. Since his growth was stunted compared to his peers, Ivan was shorter than Till when they were little.*
- *His psychological development was slower that the other children, so he would often act in strangely gloomy ways until he was a teenager.*







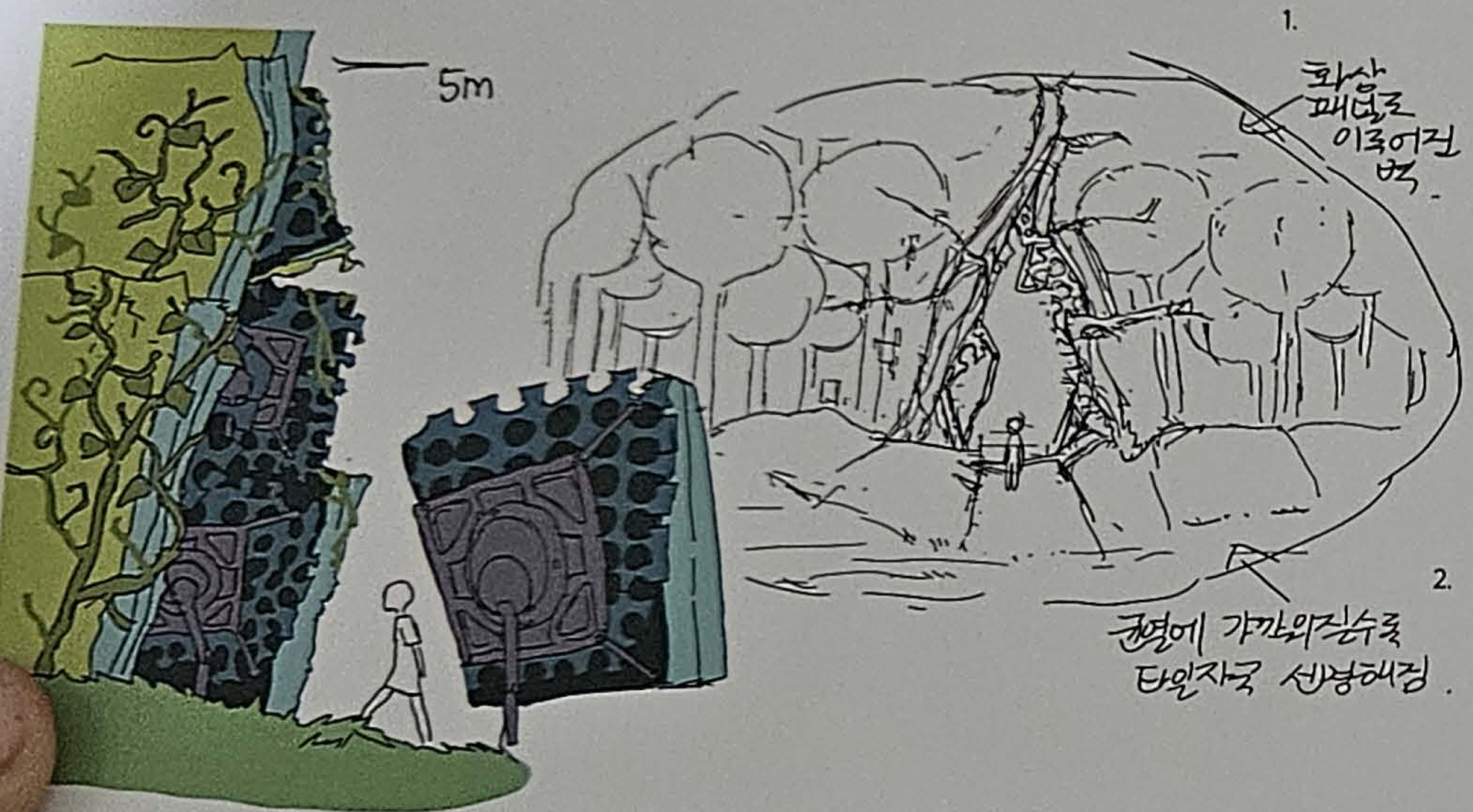




Ivan's Outfit

The brands that sponsor Ivan display advertisements on his clothes. These ads show that the pet human Ivan is just another product being sold.

ROUND 3 | Background Setting

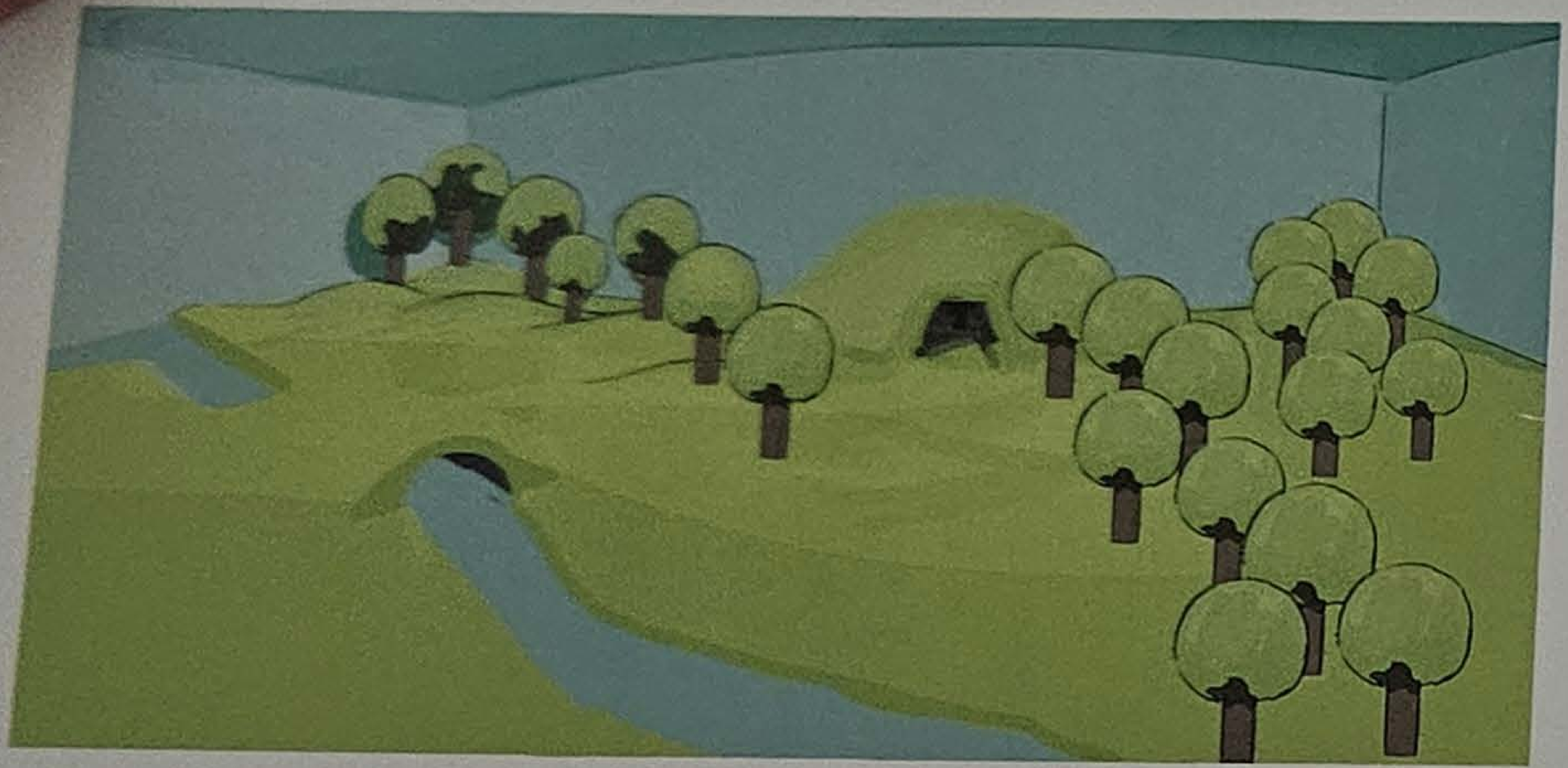


Anakt Garden Crack

✧ Somewhere in Anakt Garden, there is a place where the video panels are torn up. An incident with some plants caused video panels to be ripped out, and this revealed the crude mechanisms behind them. A scary rumor about this place prevented kids from approaching, so the area has been left alone for years without being fixed. However, it occasionally gets discovered by a curious child, and there is said to be a secret passage here that only a few know about.

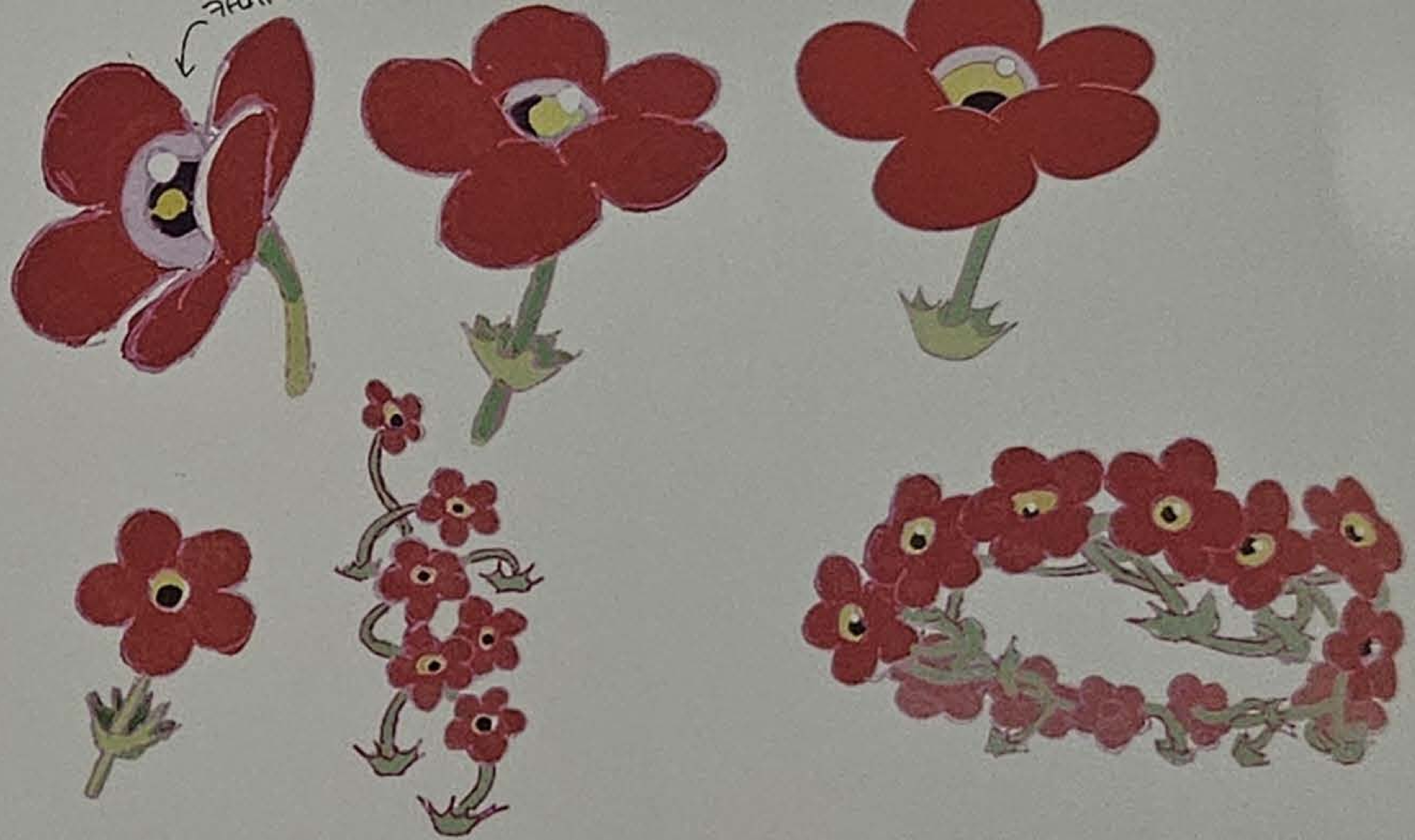
1. *Wall is made up of video panels.*
2. *The tiles become clearer when closer to the crack.*
3. *Camera Marble*

3.



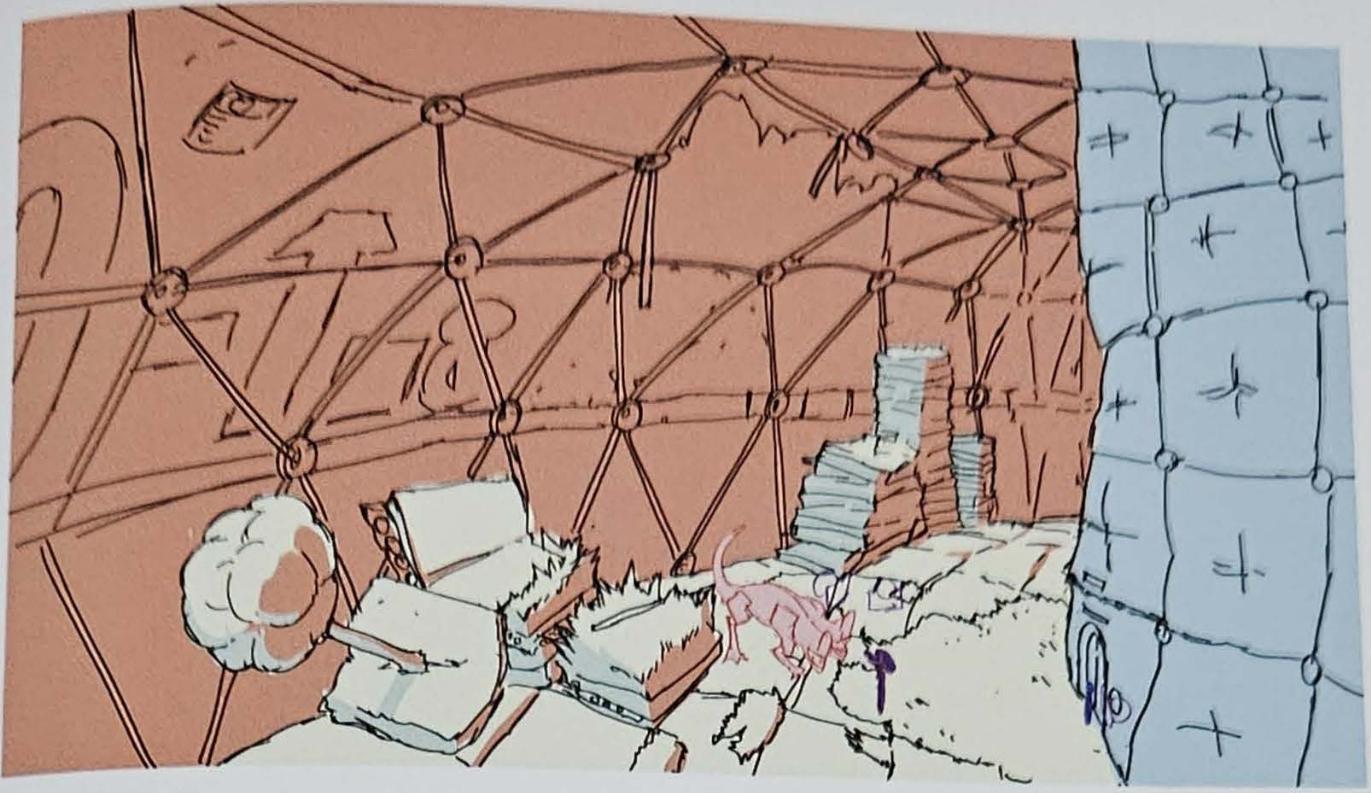
Anakt Garden Concept Art

✧ An artificial area made to look like Earth. It has a somewhat lacking and eerie atmosphere. When the Segyein first built this place, they designed it using data they obtained from studying humans on what their idea of "heaven" is. However, since this place was created without fully understanding humans, it is far from a perfect heaven.

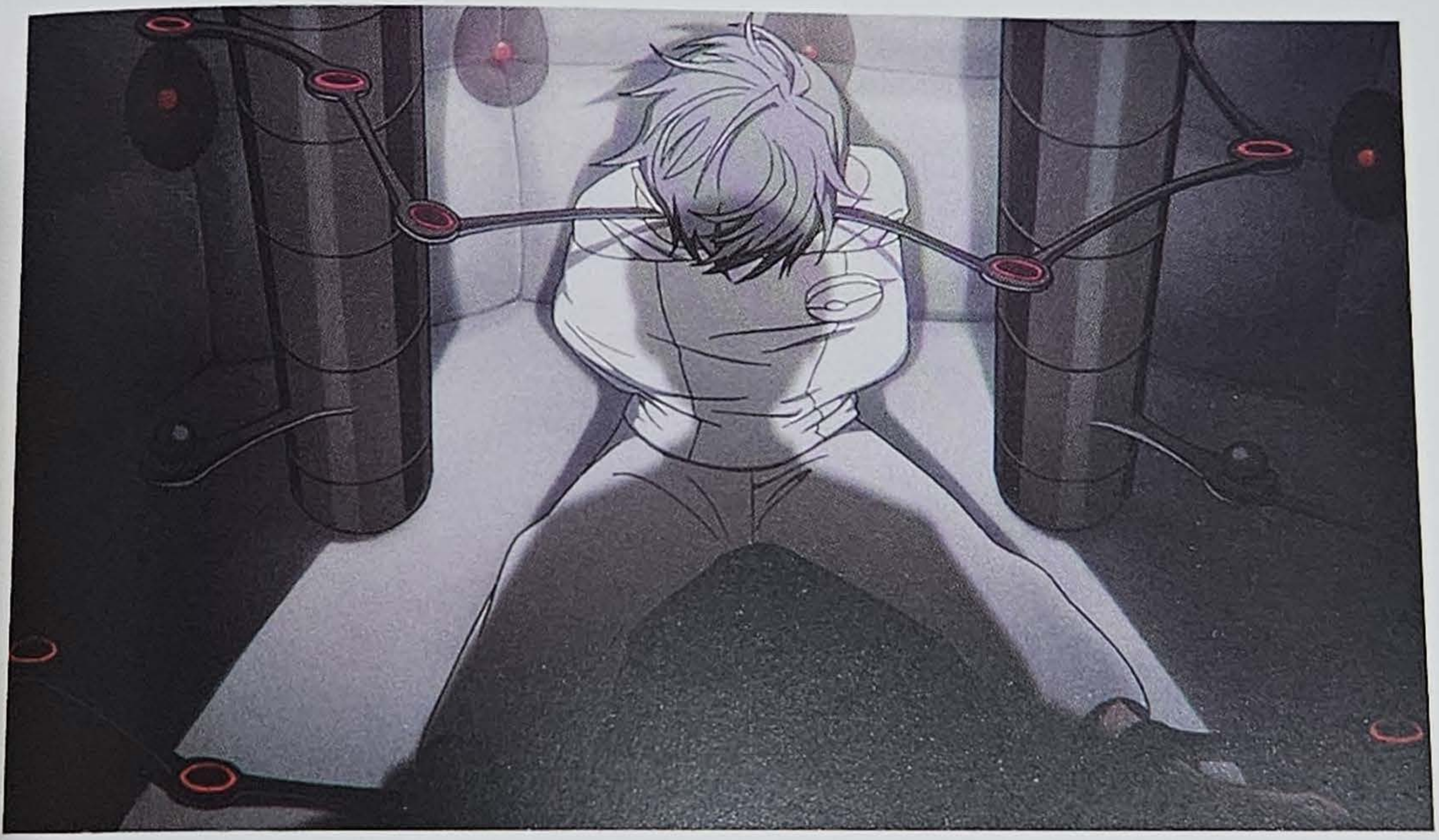


Anakt Artificial Flowers

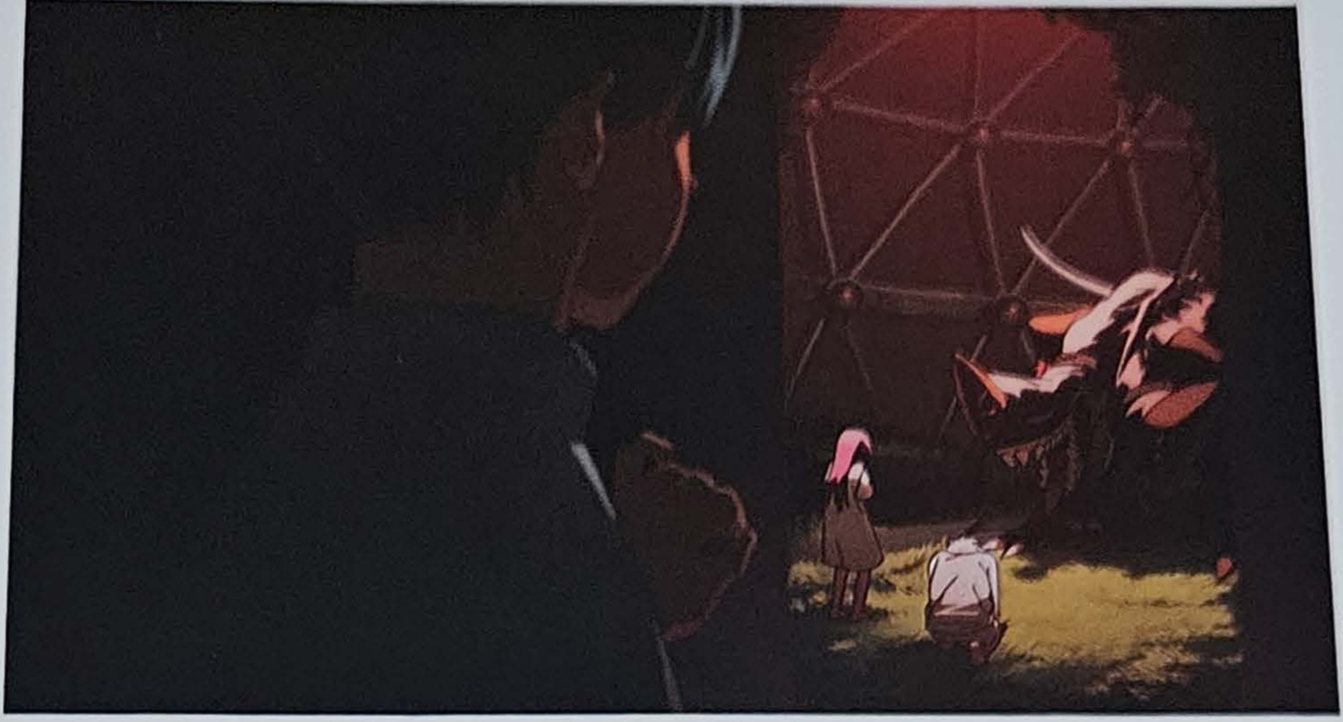
✧ Machines in the shape of flowers that are planted throughout Anakt Garden. They were modeled after anemone flowers from Earth. There is a microscopic camera embedded within the flower that keeps a 24-hour watch on the students. It is also Mizi's favorite flower.



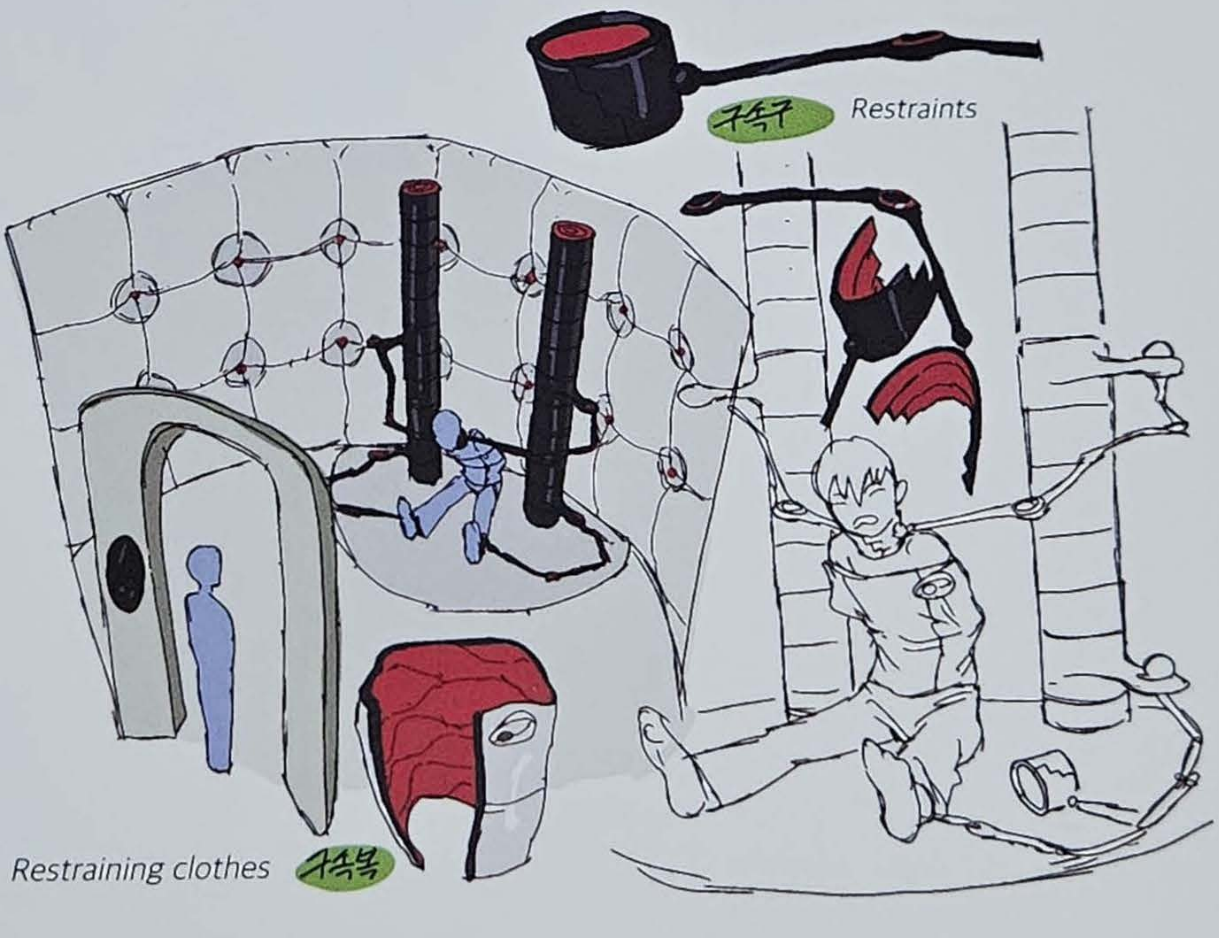
▲ Anakt Garden Warehouse



✧ An area for punishing misbehaving children. They are kept inside with restraints for a set amount of time. It is a perfectly insulated room where they can't hear anything except their own breathing.



✧ The warehouse stores the materials left over from building Anakt Garden. There is a rumor that a horrible monster roams the area for security purposes, but only a few children have actually seen it.

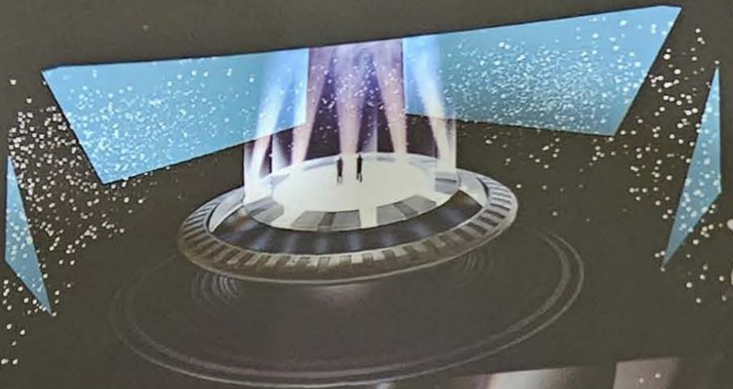

구속구
Restraints
Restraining clothes
구속복

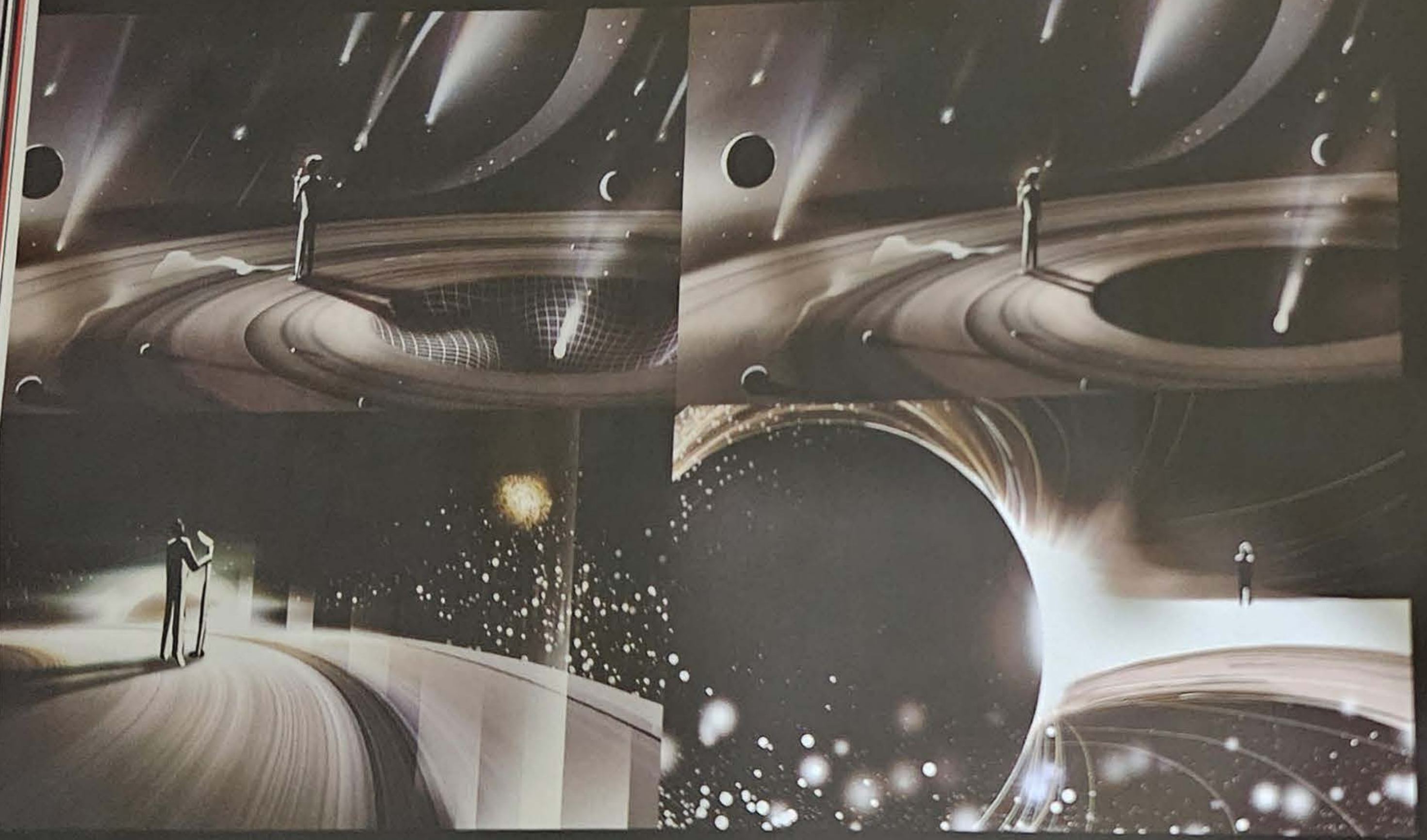
▲ Punishment Room

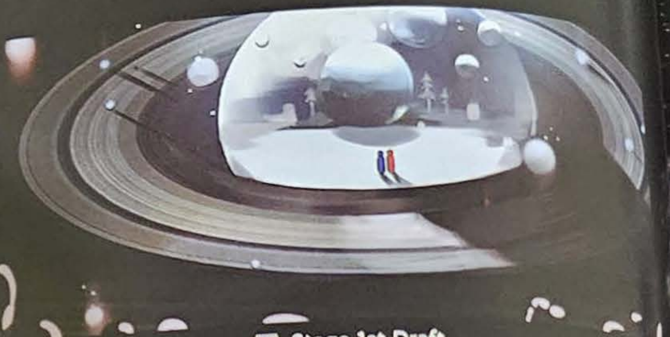
ROUND 3 | Stage Concept

Early Stage Concept Art

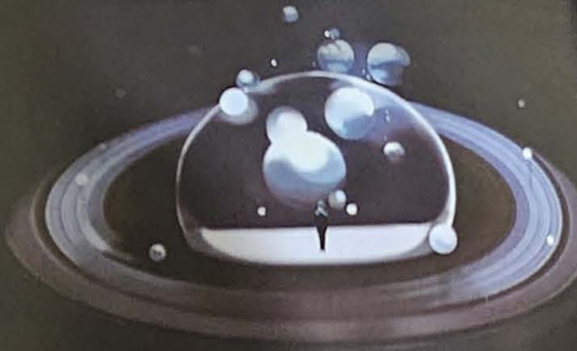
The theme for Ivan's stage is **"Saturn."** In order to create the settled atmosphere of a rock ballad, giant, heavy-looking steel spheres were added. By making the steel spheres slowly float up from within Saturn's rings, we tried to achieve a space-like atmosphere.



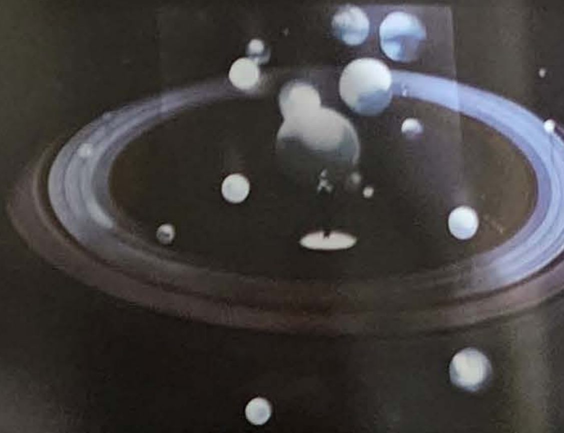




1 Stage 1st Draft



2 Stage 2nd Draft

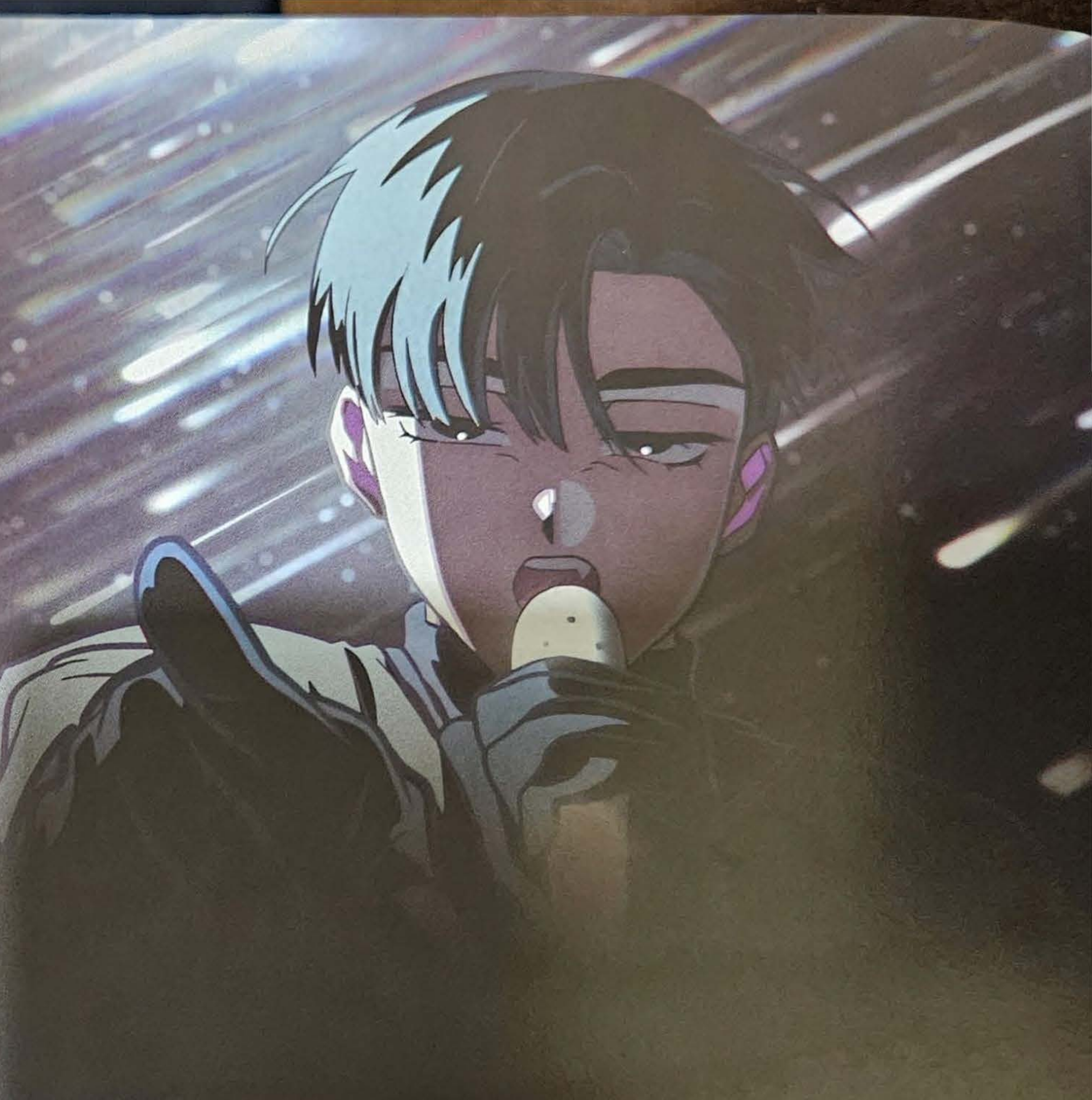


3 Final Stage Draft

ALIEN STAGE ROUND 3 COMMENTARY

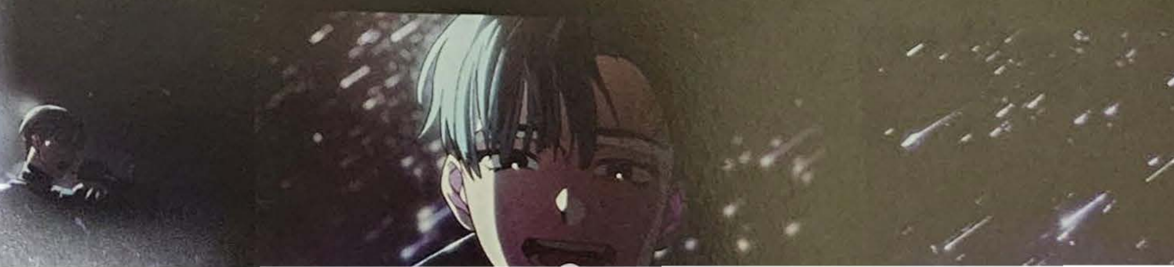
BLACK SORROW

Song by PARK BYEONG HOON (IVAN)

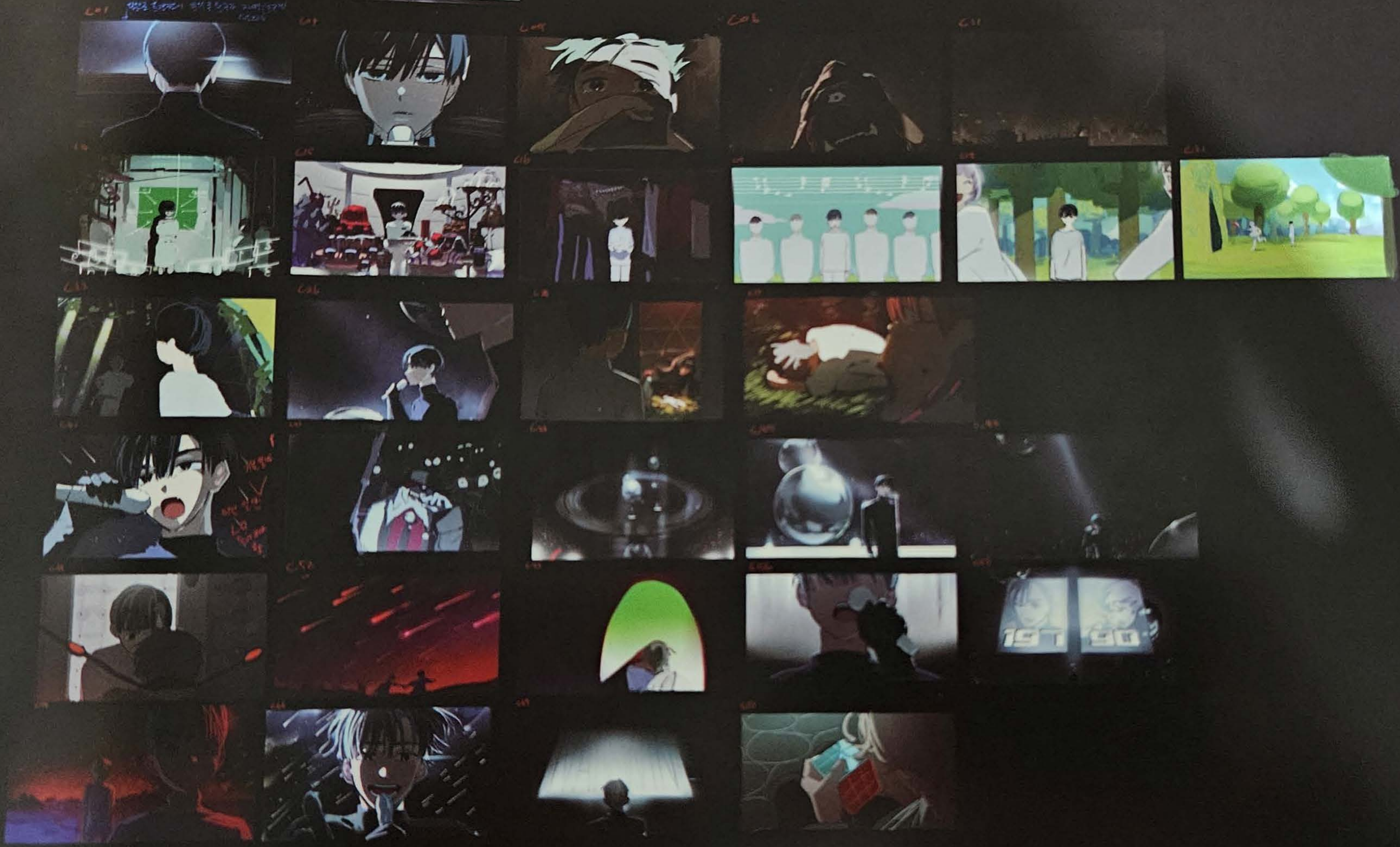


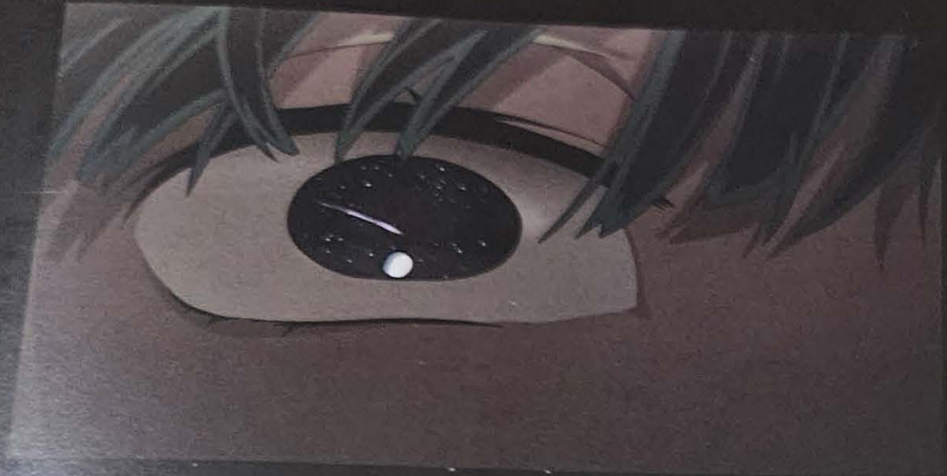
Director Commentary

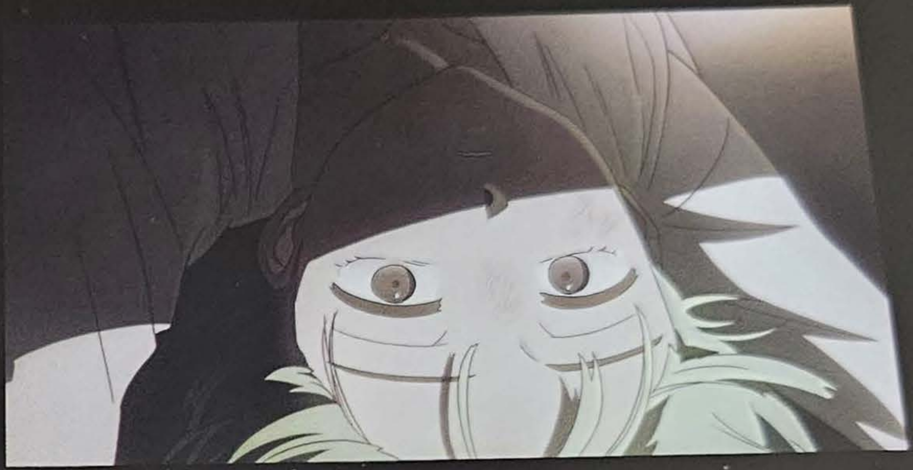
While on the precipice of introducing another important character, Director VIVINOS and Co-Director QMENG had disagreements about character interpretation and balance. This was not fully resolved and caused a hasty start into production. Our workflow was also still unstable, which led to an extremely eventful production phase. It was only after we finished this episode that we were able to reflect on our mistakes and solidify the overall direction of the project.



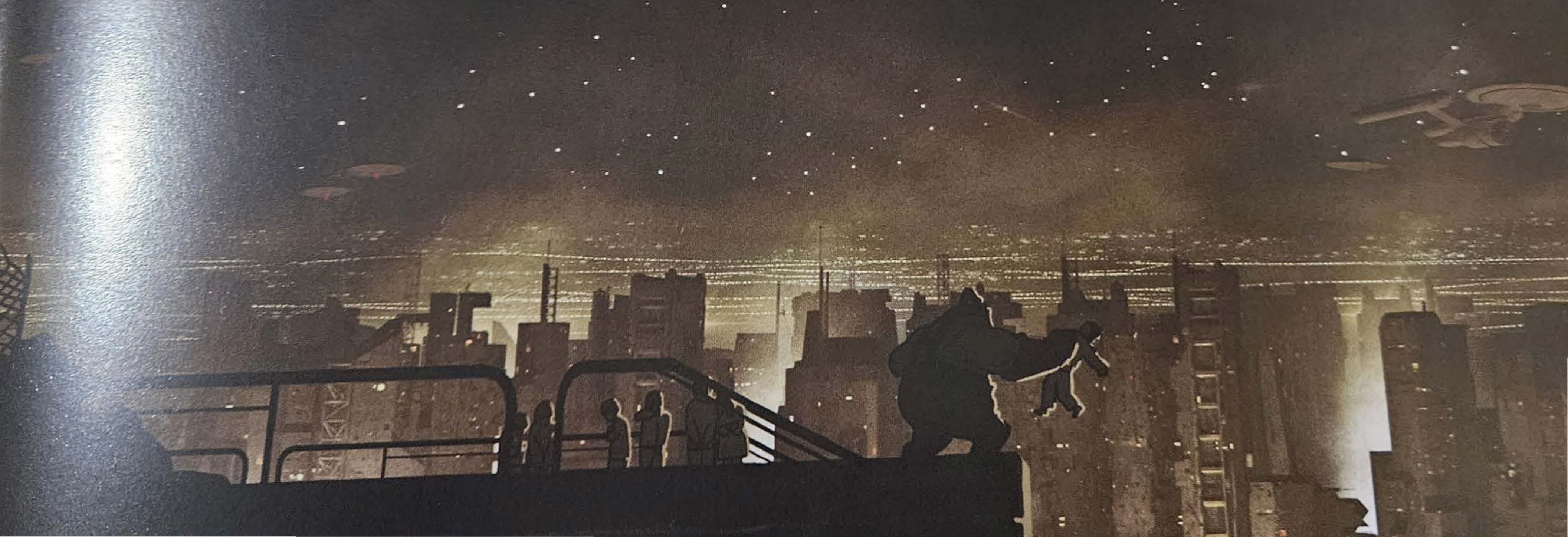
Transition past a giant circle (ultra narrow view)
Go to the next cut.

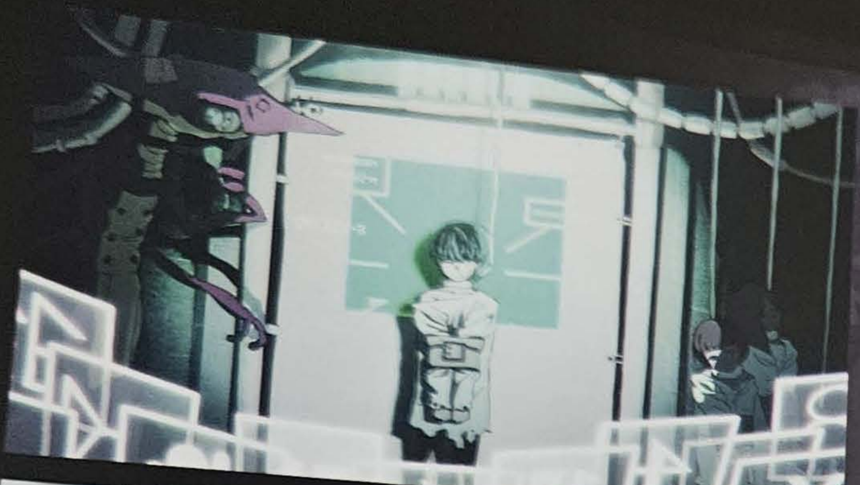


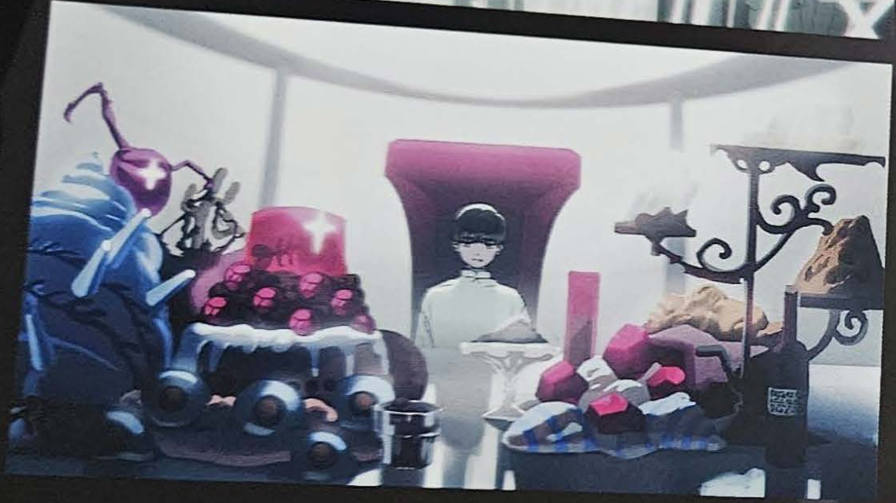




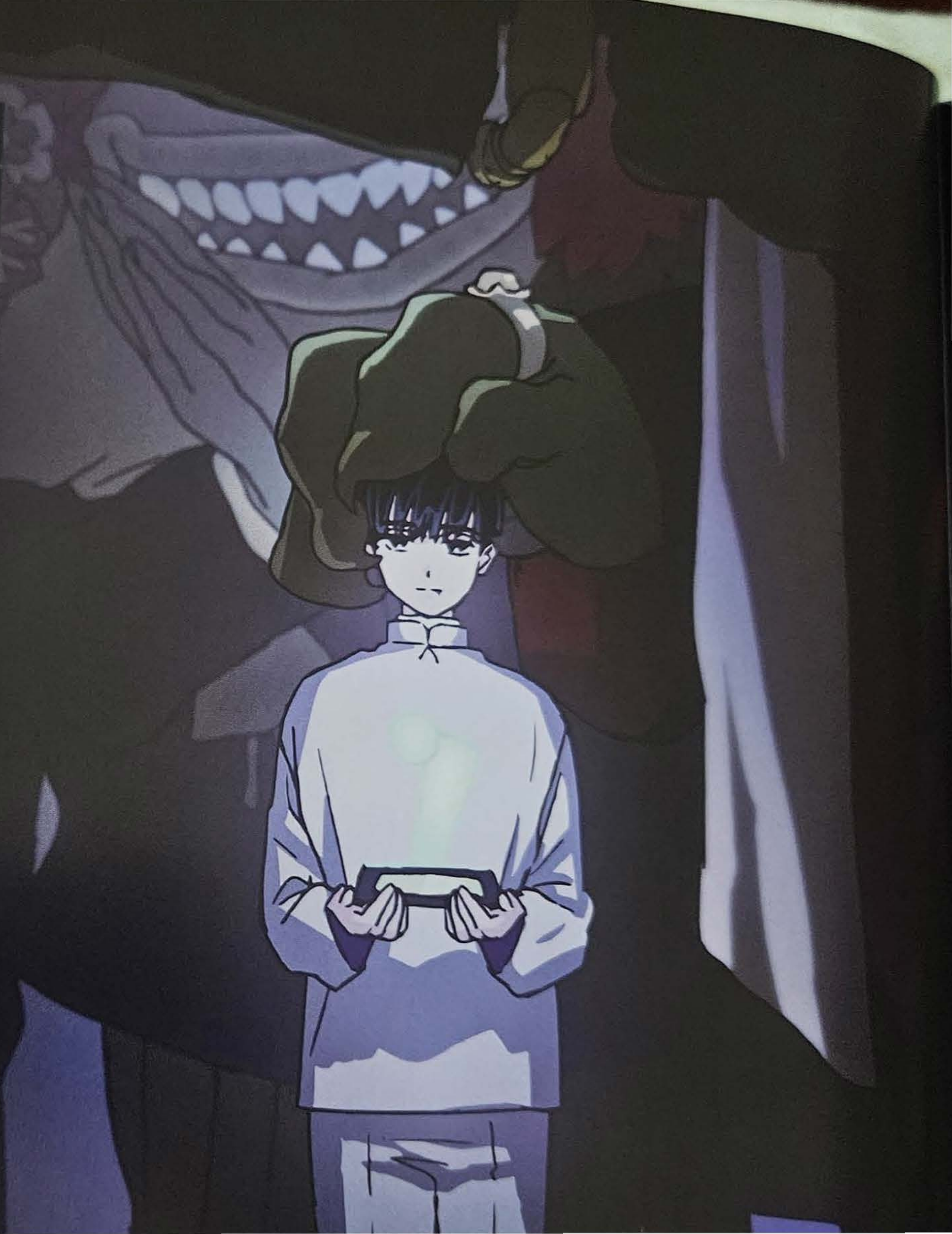
Ivan was born in an illegal human factory in the slums and had a rough life growing up. During a physical outburst with the violent Segyein dealer, Ivan came face-to-face with the threat of death at much too young an age. When Ivan saw the shooting stars falling behind the Segyein's head, the heavenly feeling he experienced alongside the fear of death left a strong impression upon his subconscious.



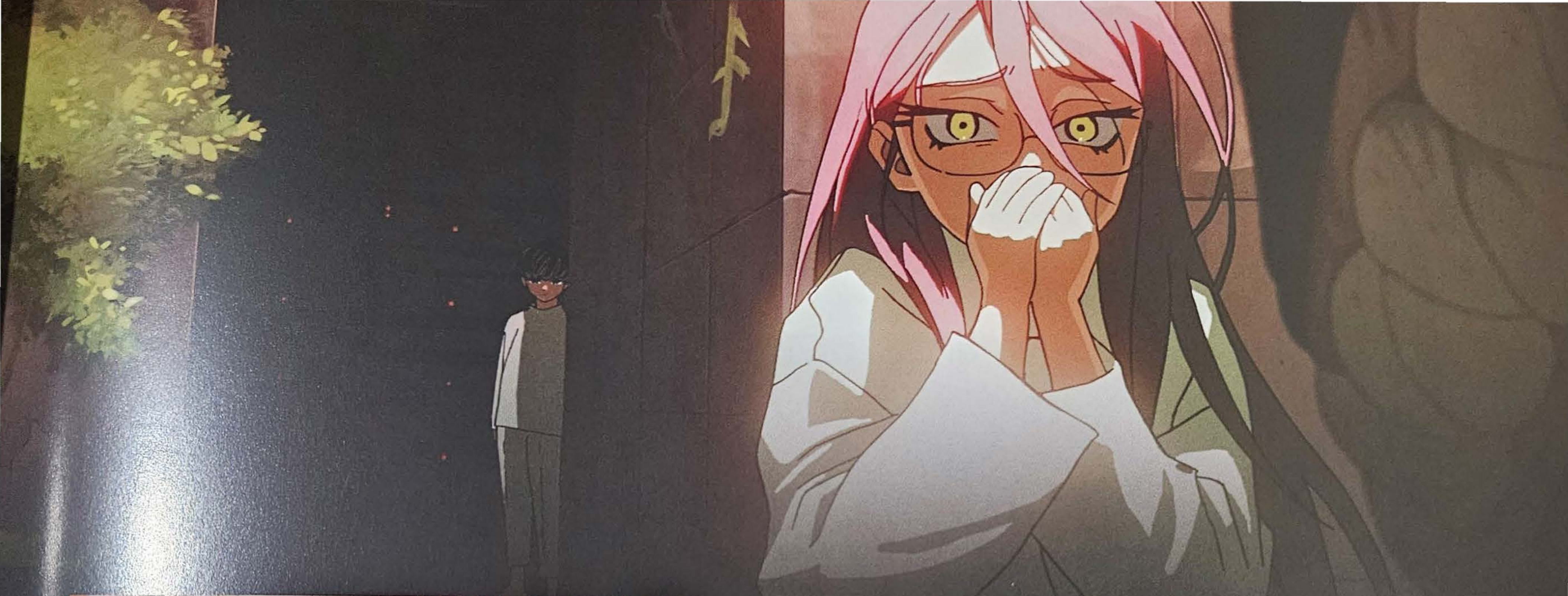


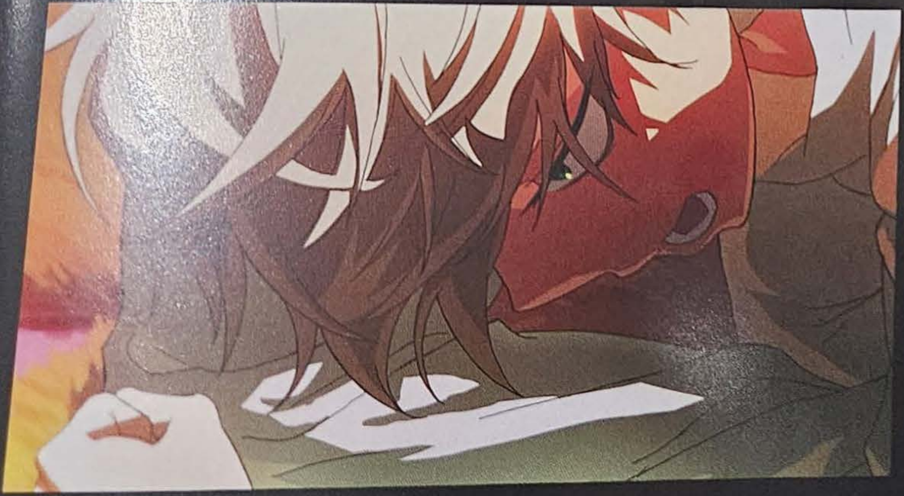


After almost dying in the slums, Ivan thought that "death" was always by his side. Even after being sold off to an affluent Segyein and getting the food and shelter he desperately craved, Ivan's opinion that all life was fated to meet an unceremonious end didn't change. Perhaps it was out of a desire to maintain a comfortable life, but the intelligent Ivan decided to follow his owner without any fuss.



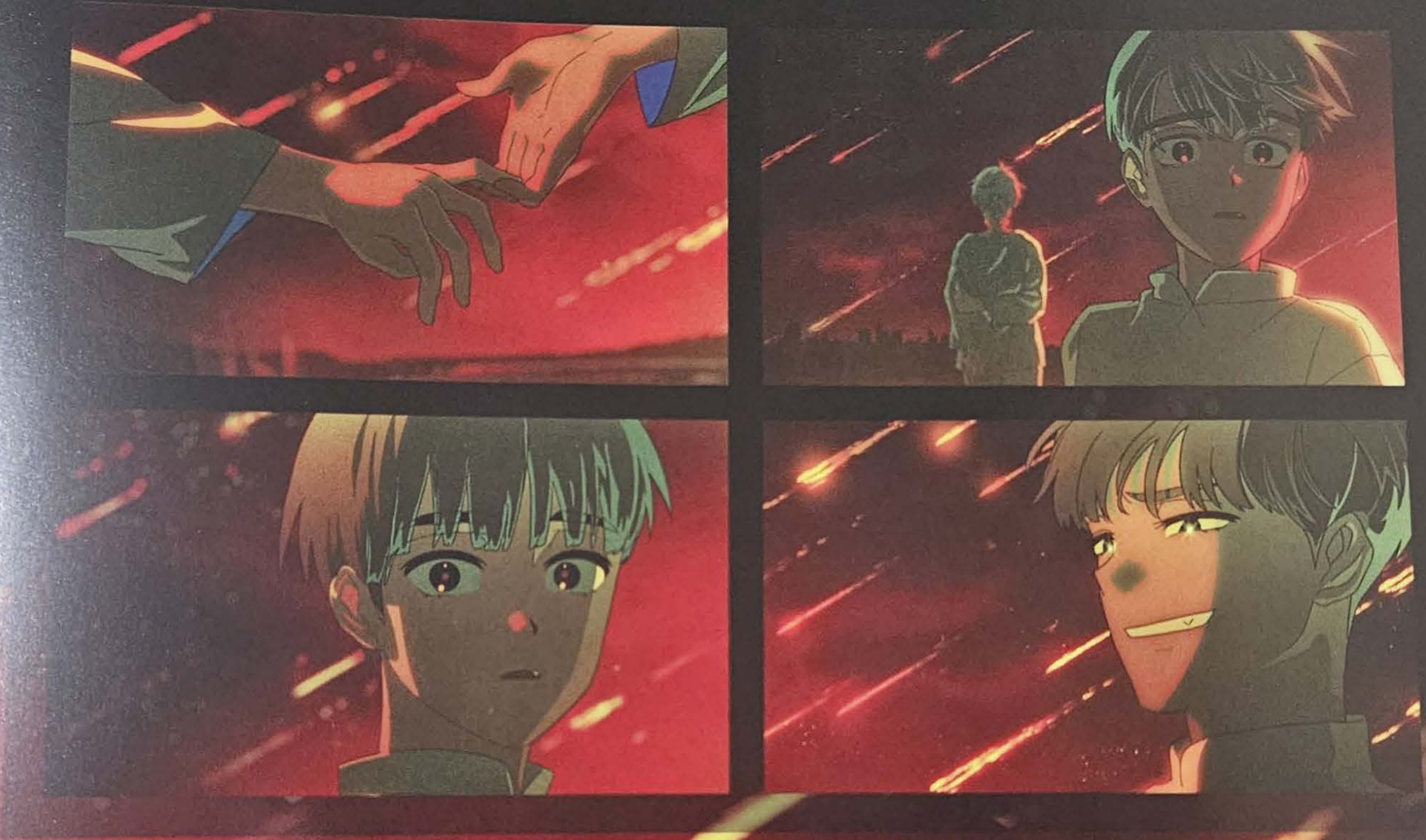
Ivan lures Till into the crack.
Ivan's actions were fueled by his curiosity toward Till.





The sight of Till getting up over and over in order to protect Mizi is burned into Ivan's eyes. Ivan sees just how different and special Till is compared to himself. In this moment, Ivan realizes that he can never become like Till nor understand him, causing his curiosity to shift into an obsession with this unknown being.

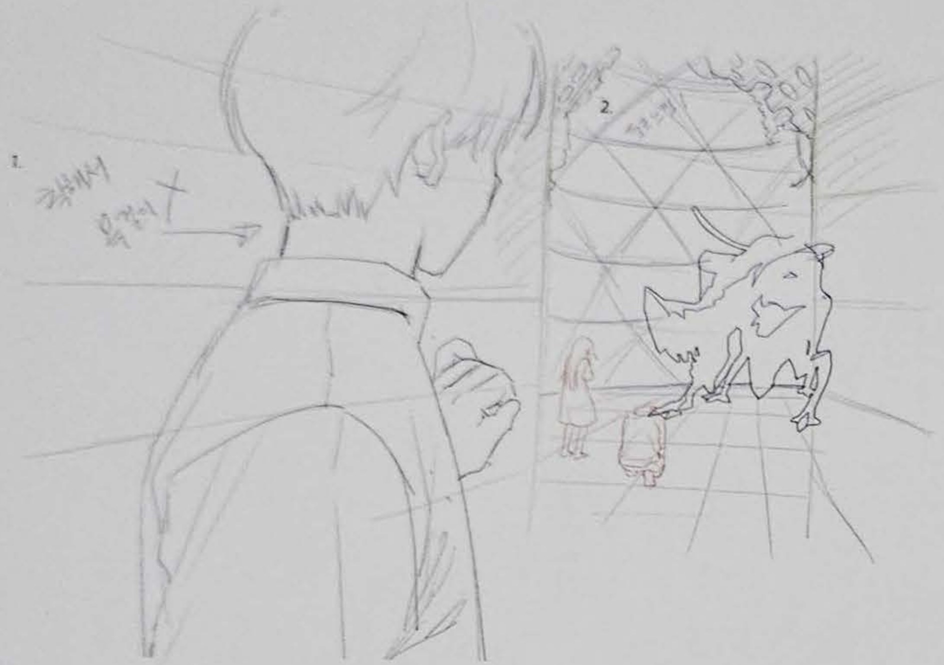
Even Ivan doesn't know whether the meteor showers raining down with such brilliant lights were real or a hallucination. That meteor shower was similar to the shooting stars he saw as a child but much more fierce.

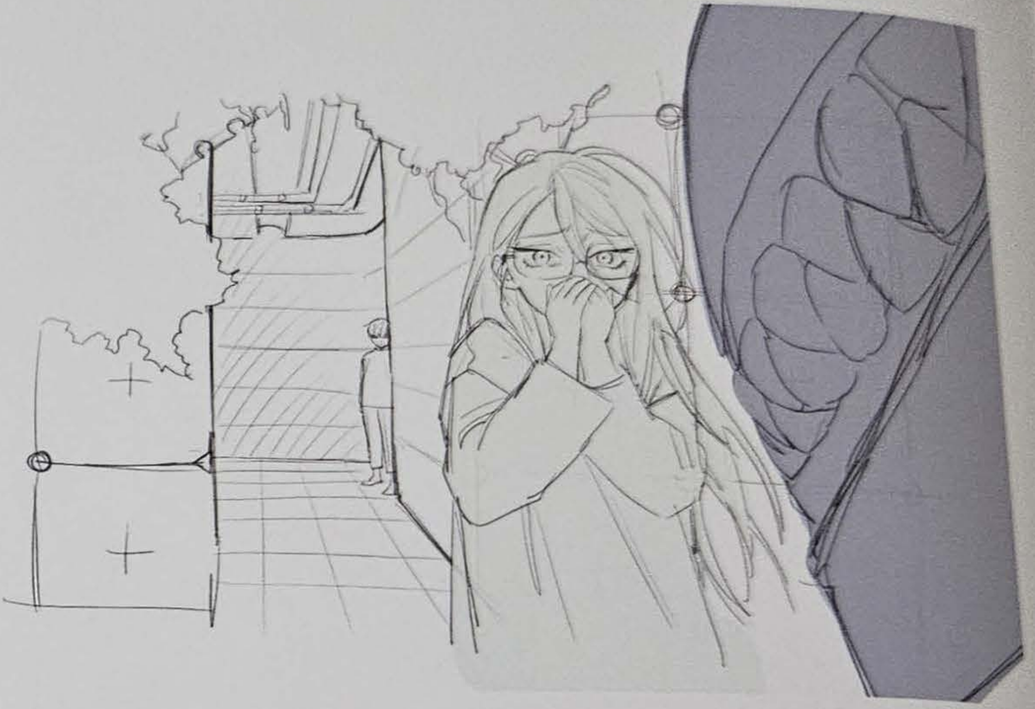


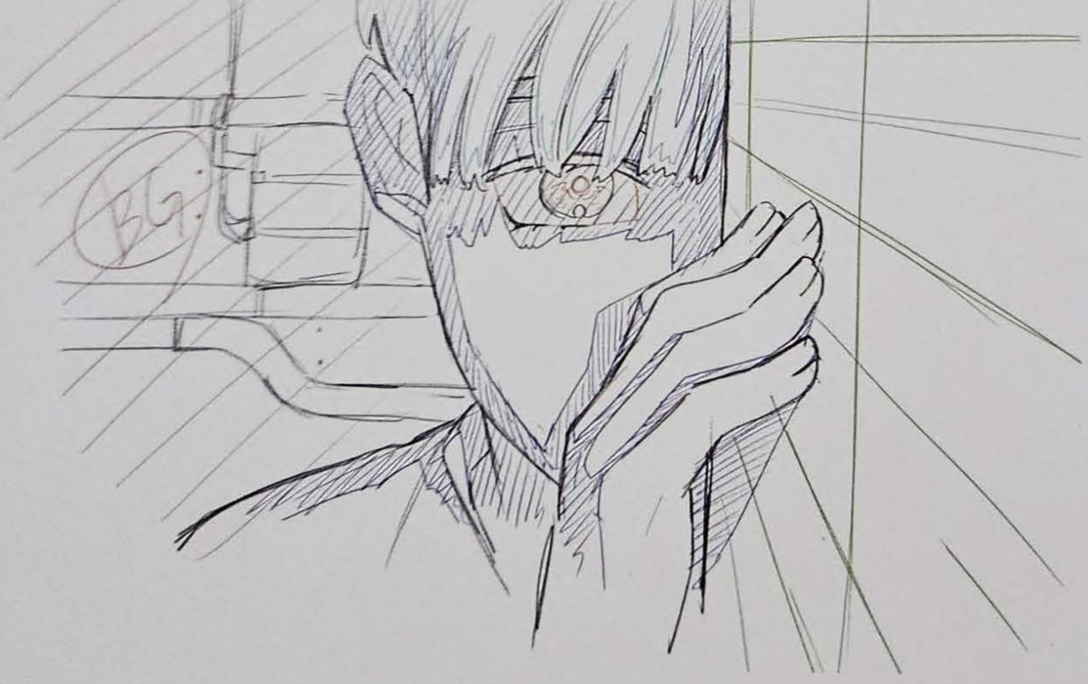
Till escapes the warehouse thanks to Ivan, but he shakes off Ivan's hand and runs back because he couldn't leave Mizi all by herself. Even as he feels sadness about the rejection, Ivan's expression reflects a wry smile as if he knew this would happen. It is at this point that Ivan's feelings toward Till become a twisted mix of anger and affection, and enough time passes that he forgets when these feelings even started in the first place. As old memories became muddied and growing emotions found no release, Ivan's feelings turned into "obsession."

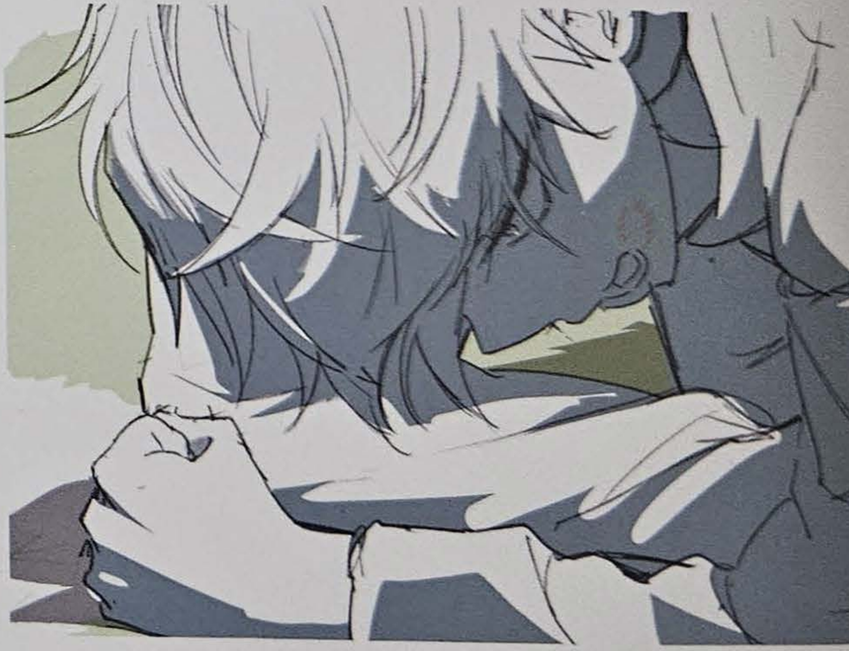
The lyrics of the song cannot fully explain Ivan. The song itself came out just as he practiced it. But as Ivan reaches the final chorus, he begins to remember the moment when his buried emotions first began. For a brief moment, a longing expression appears on his face before he returns to reality.

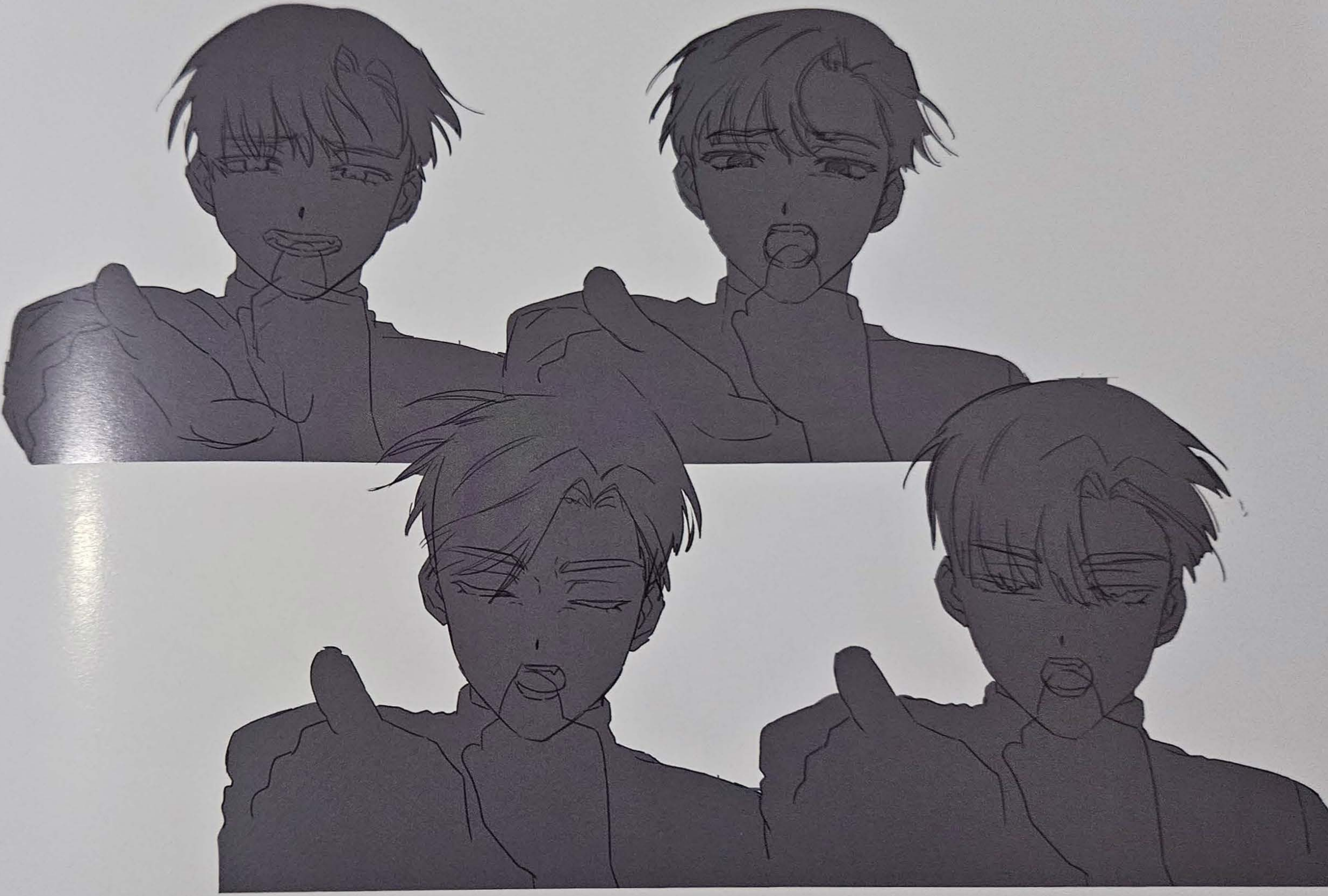
1. He's obedient so no collar. 2. Make it round-ish

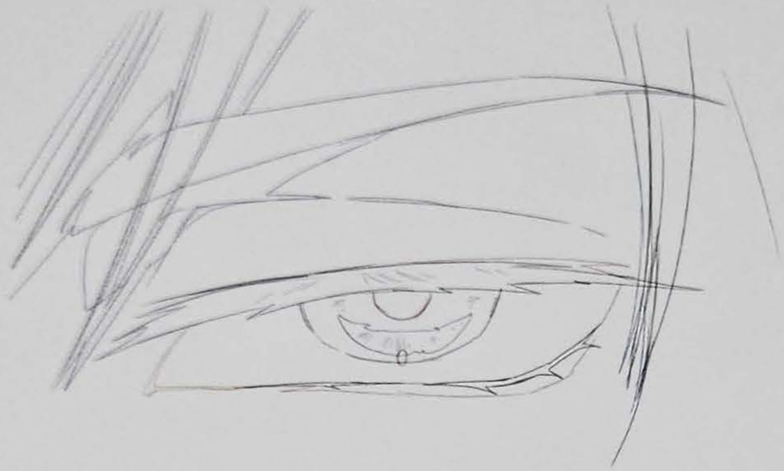


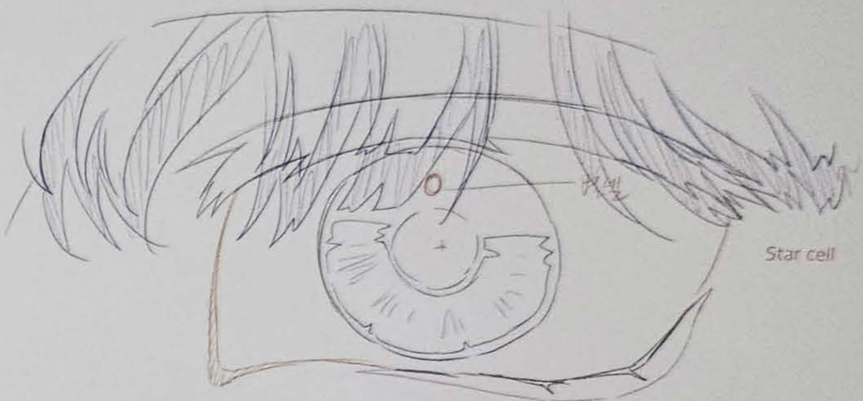


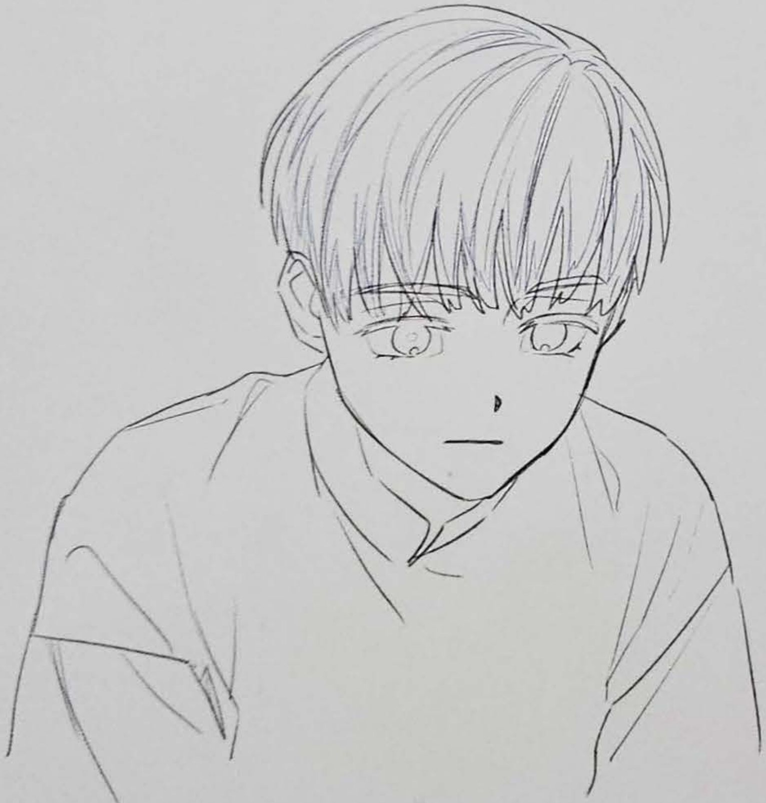


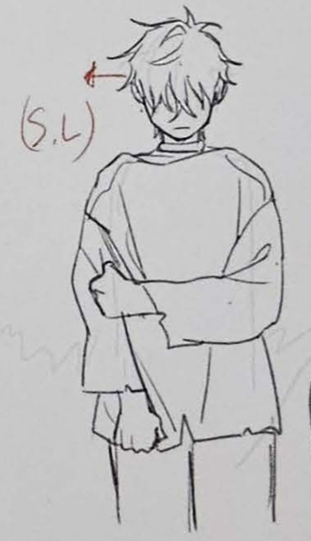


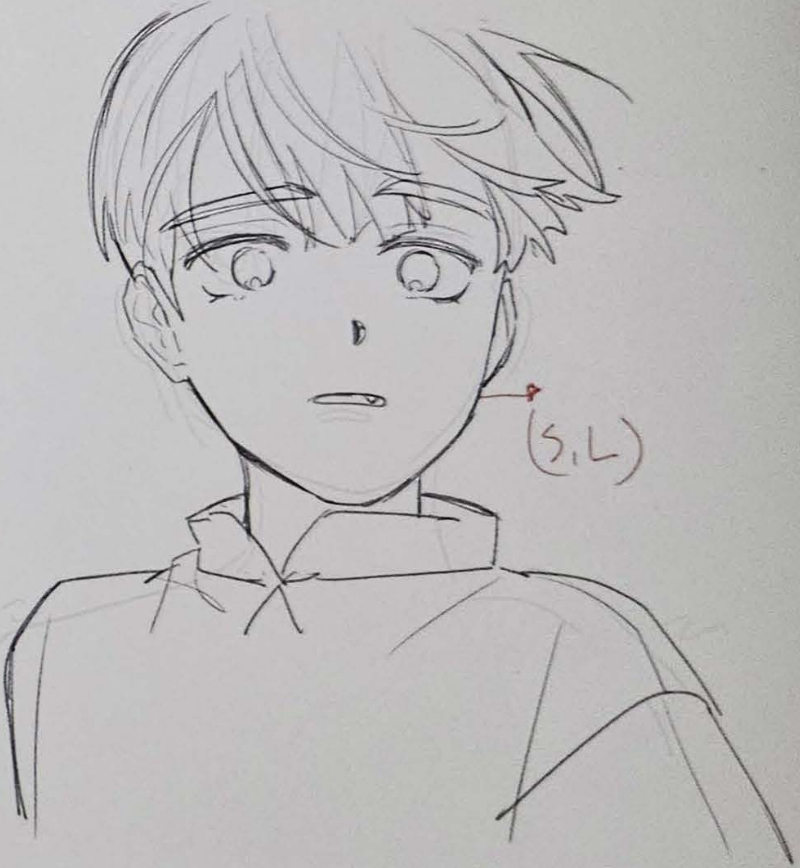





커셀
Star cell




(S.L)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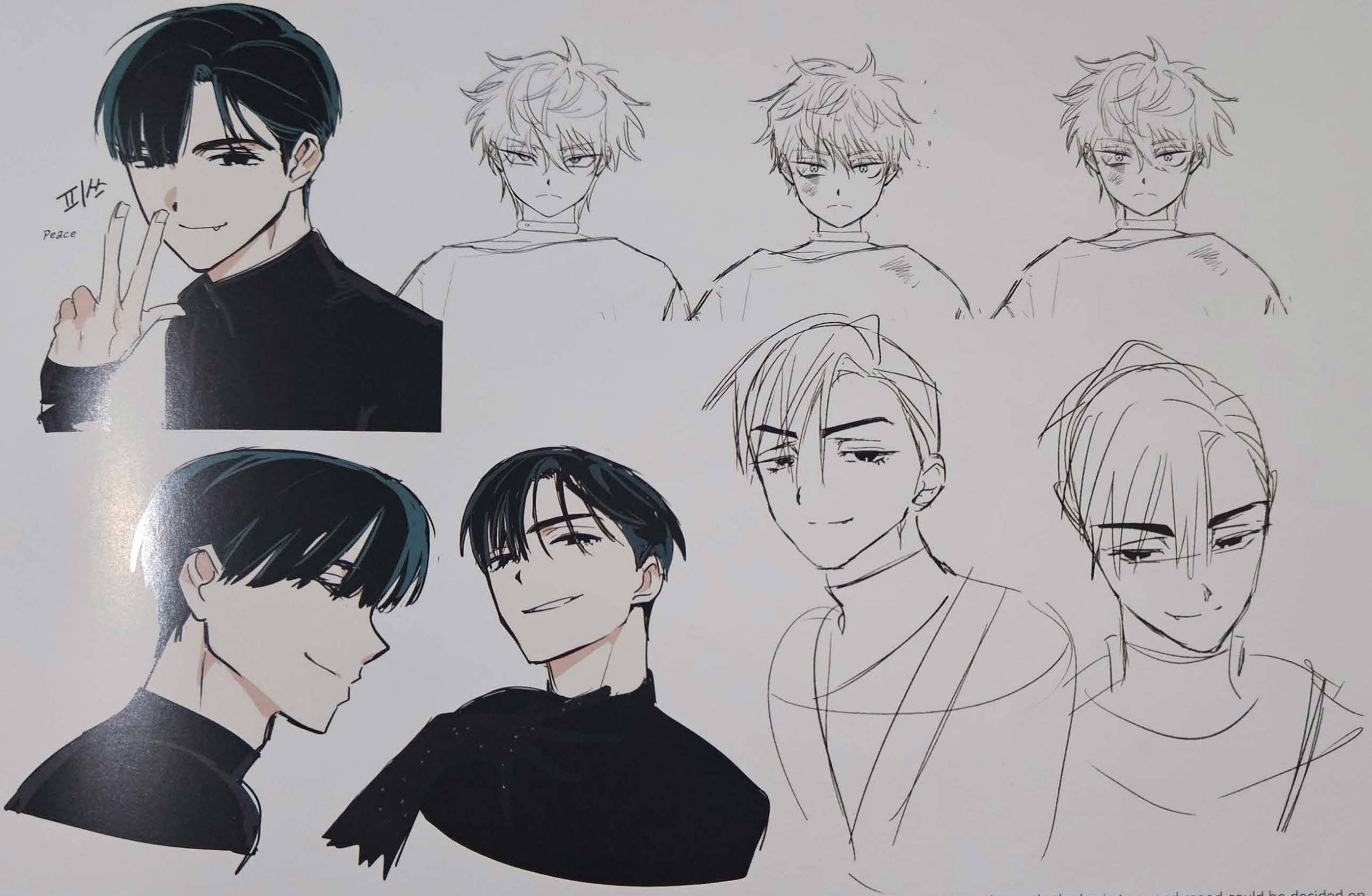
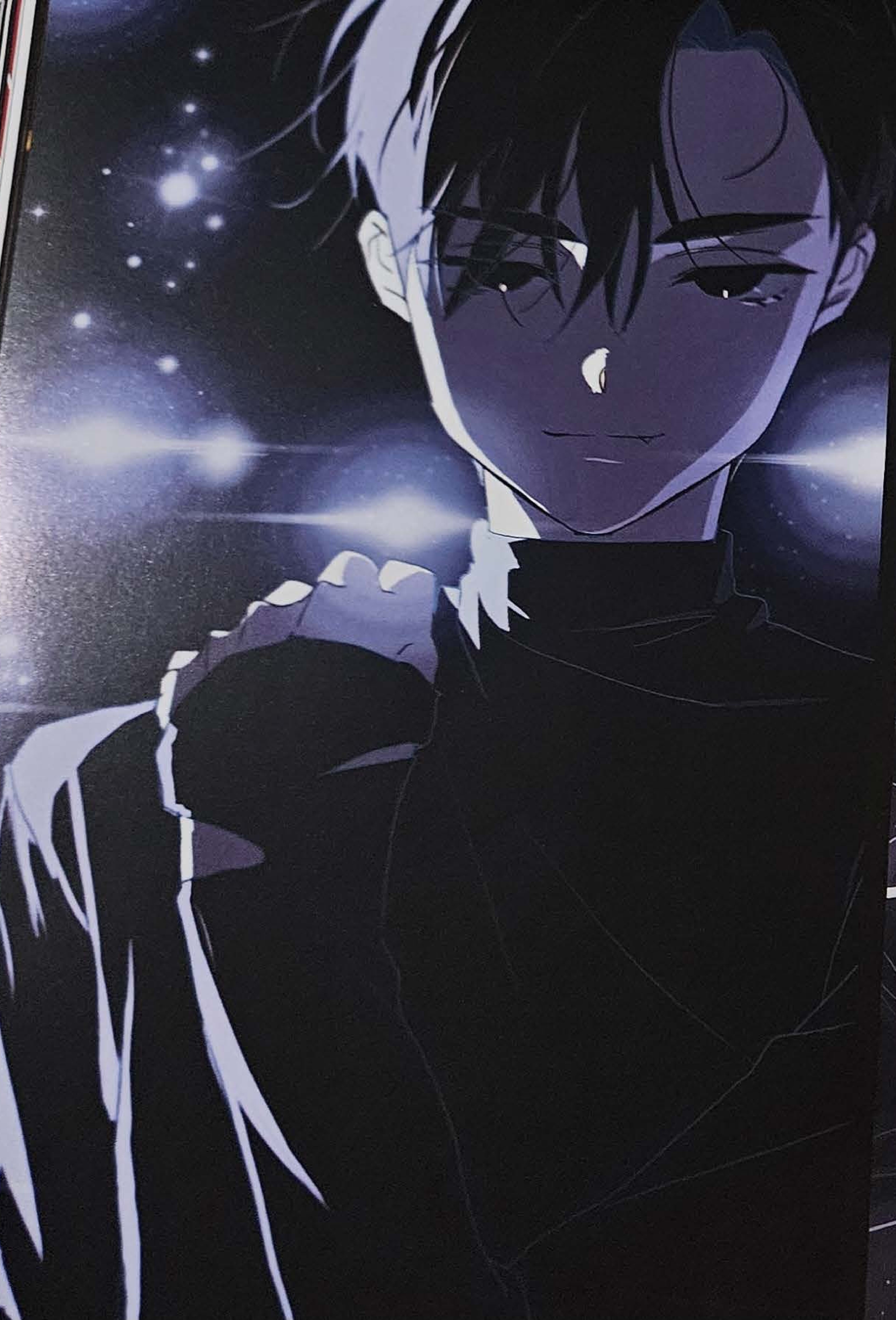
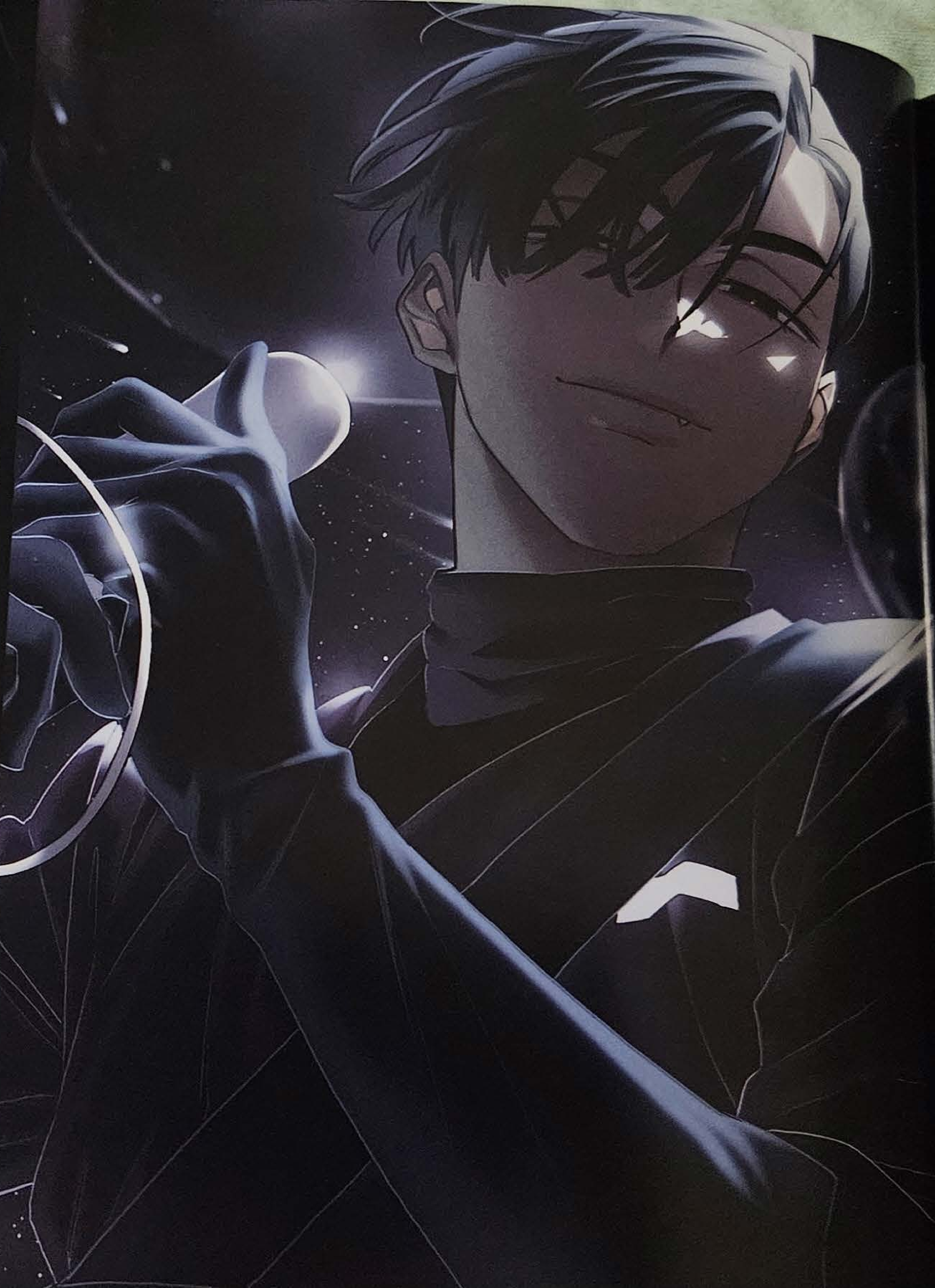
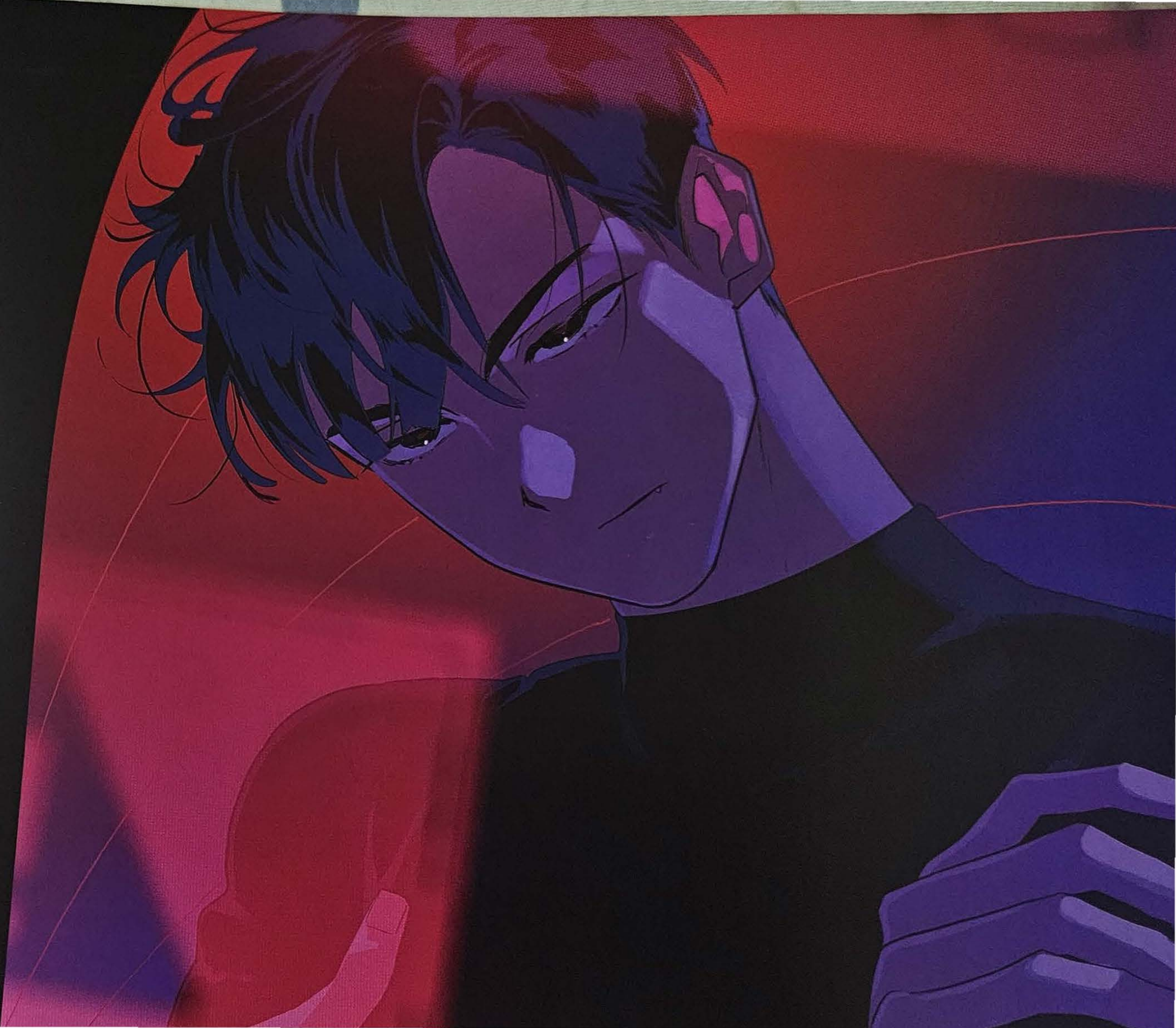


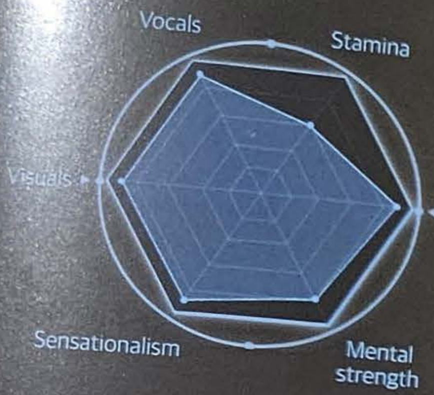
✧ A time when only the basic tone and mood could be decided on. Director VIVINOS and Co-Director QMENG's art styles were so different that they had to draw multiple times to align their art styles with each other.





Spectator





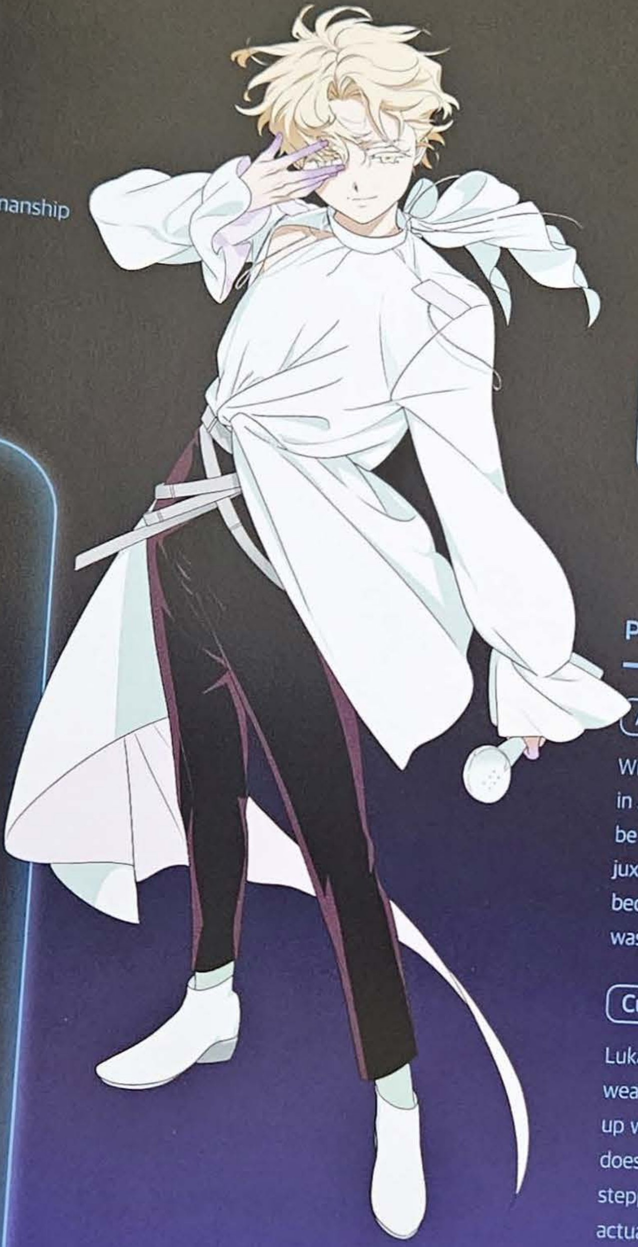
CHARACTER COMMENT

#FinalBoss #LukaSyndrome #SicklyPrince #INTJ

PRO FILE

Birthday	1223
Born	Human Auction
Age	30
Height/Weight	5'7" / 139lbs
Blood Type	RH-AB
ID Number	010401
Affiliation	Anakt Garden 49th Class
Owner	Heperu
Likes	Unknown
Dislikes	Unknown
Talent	Leg Splits
MBTI	INTJ

An unprecedented genius idol who instantly spread the popularity of pet humans to new heights with the advent of "Luka Syndrome."



Human Relationships

Hyuna

Closeness 70% ▸ 1st ◂

I pity her. She's just avoiding the current situation. If she were in my arms, her safety would have been guaranteed...

Mizi

Closeness 0%

The sight of her simply being unable to control her emotions is foolish and pitiful.

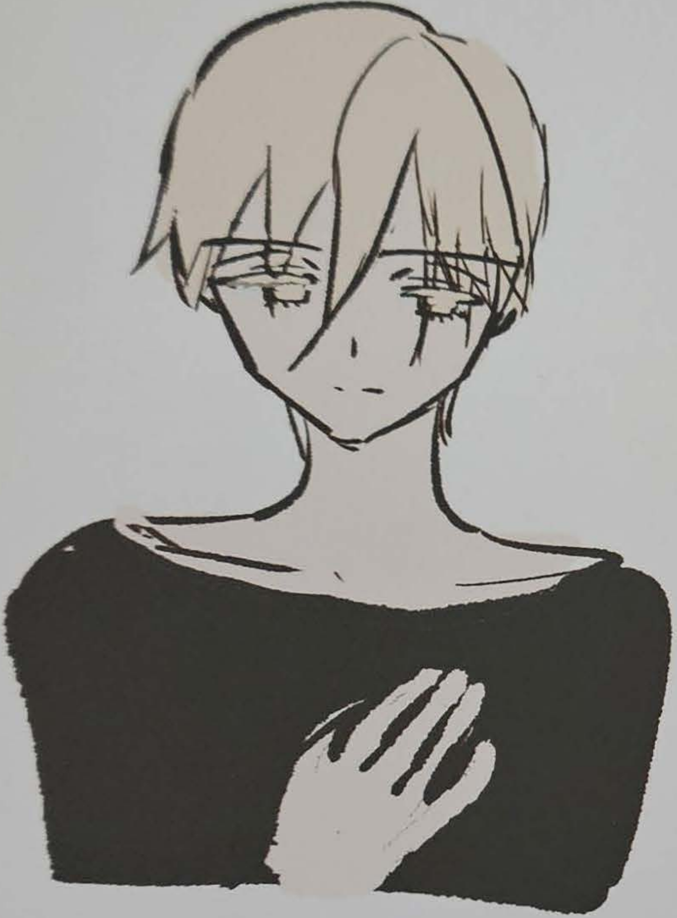
Personality

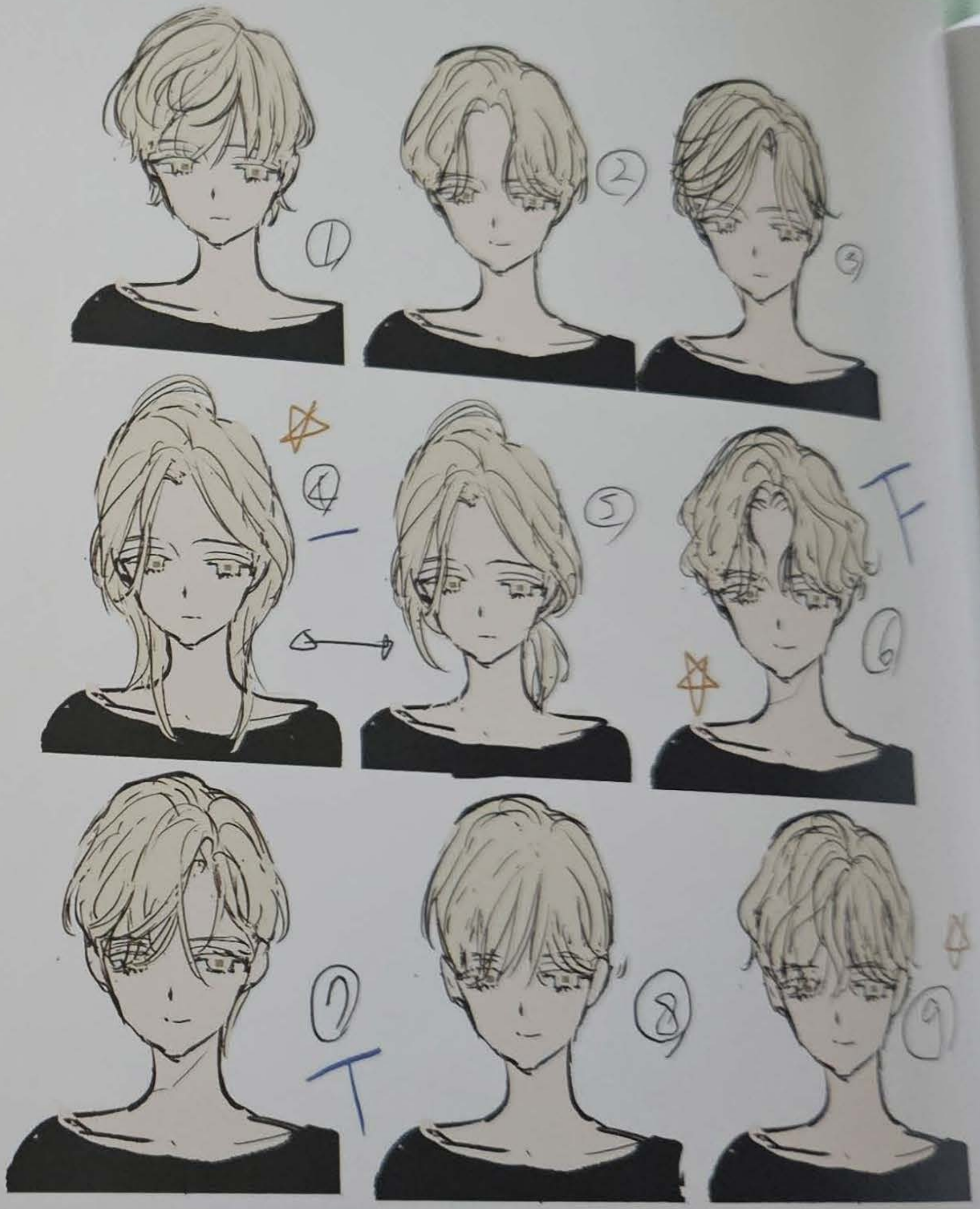
A Farce Up Close

With his elegant looks, Luka initially drew a lot of attention from the other children in Anakt. However, once they discovered his true personality, none of them would be friends with him. His self-destructive actions also harmed others. His innocence juxtaposed with his seemingly evil nature. None of these could be forgiven just because he was beautiful. In the end, no one could understand him. And because it was pointless to even try, he fell deeper into his own world.

Cunning

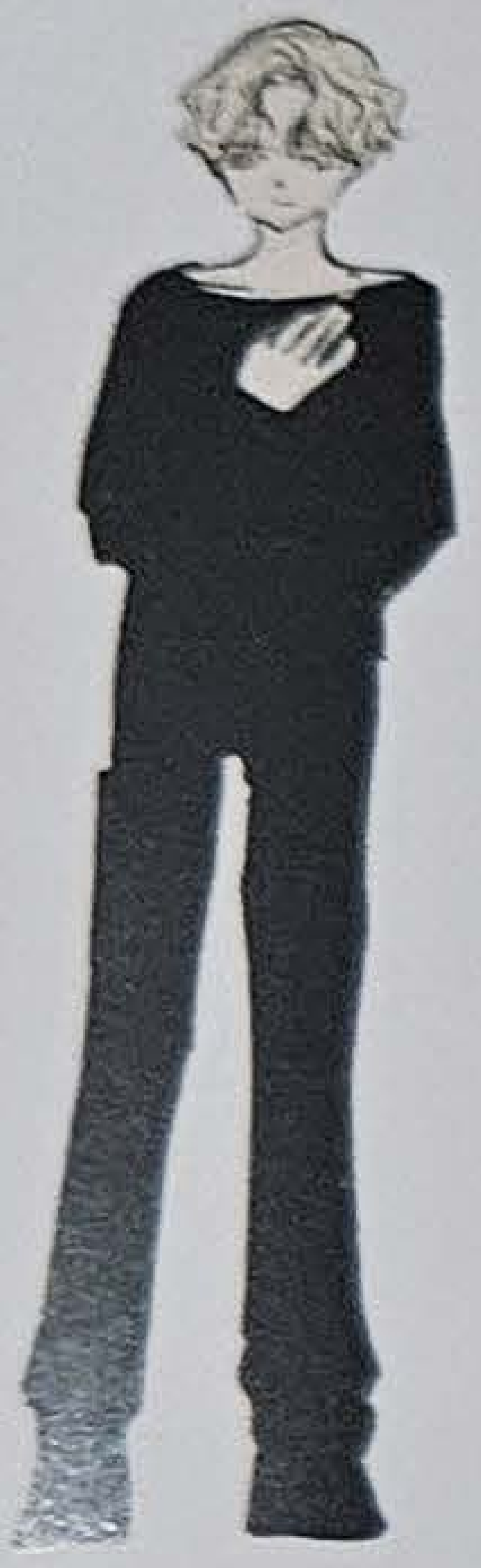
Luka's perfectly kept idol image stems from a refusal to show even a single weakness and also his obsession with performing on stage. As someone who grew up without letting anyone close and focused only on proving his self-worth, Luka doesn't care whether or not others are hurt by his actions. He has no qualms about stepping over people to get to the top, but no one knows if this is because he's actually evil.

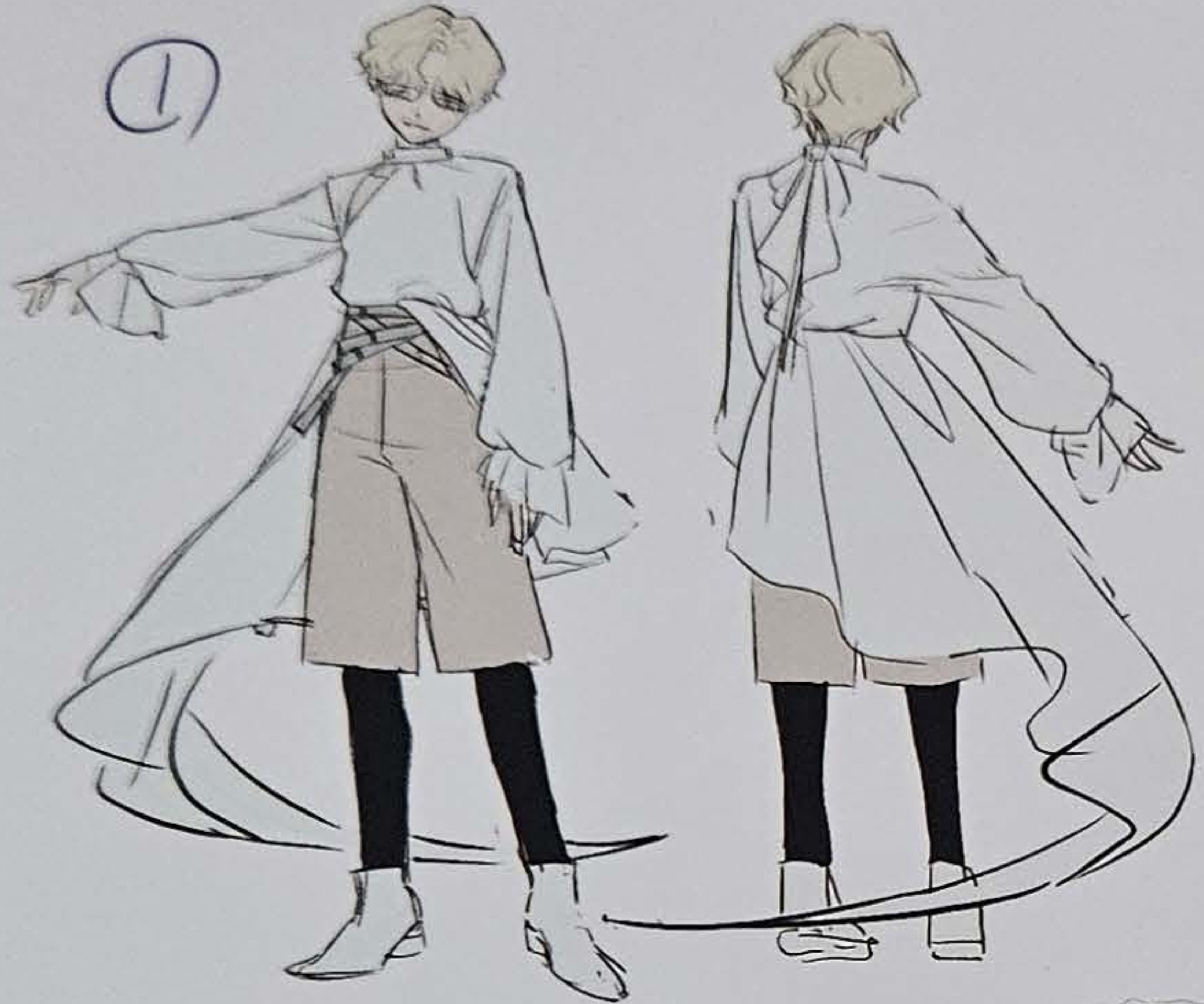


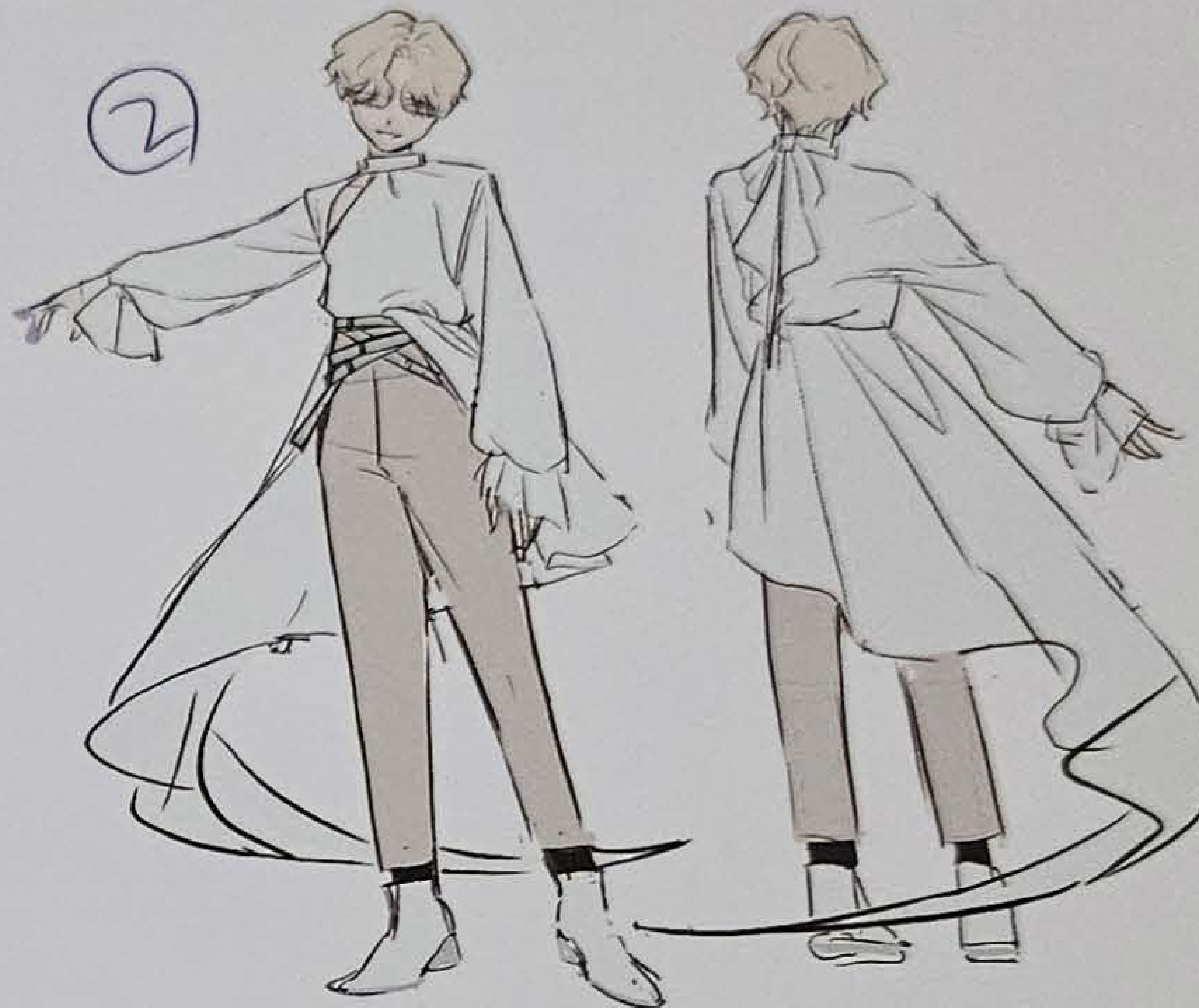


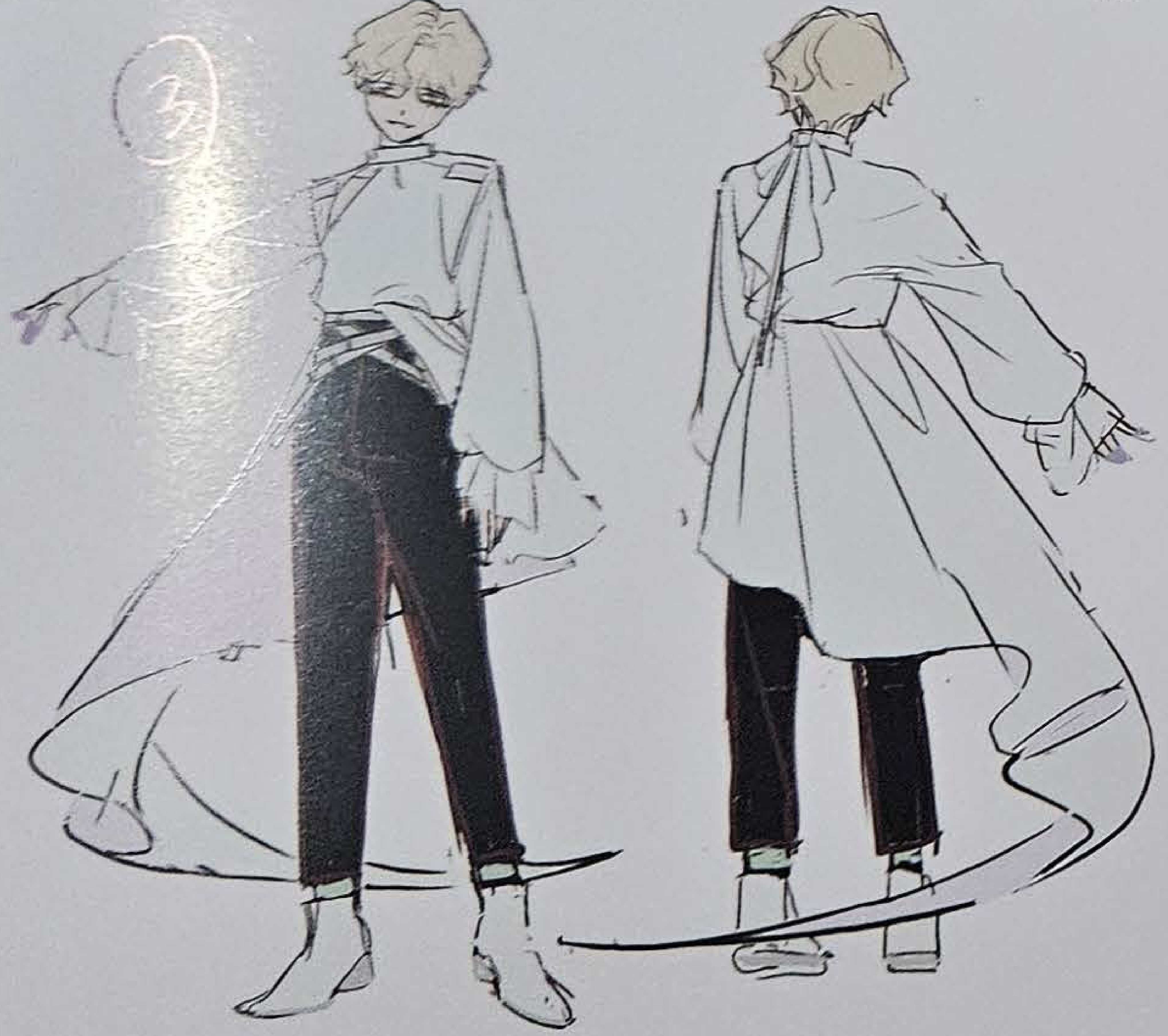
Initial Concept

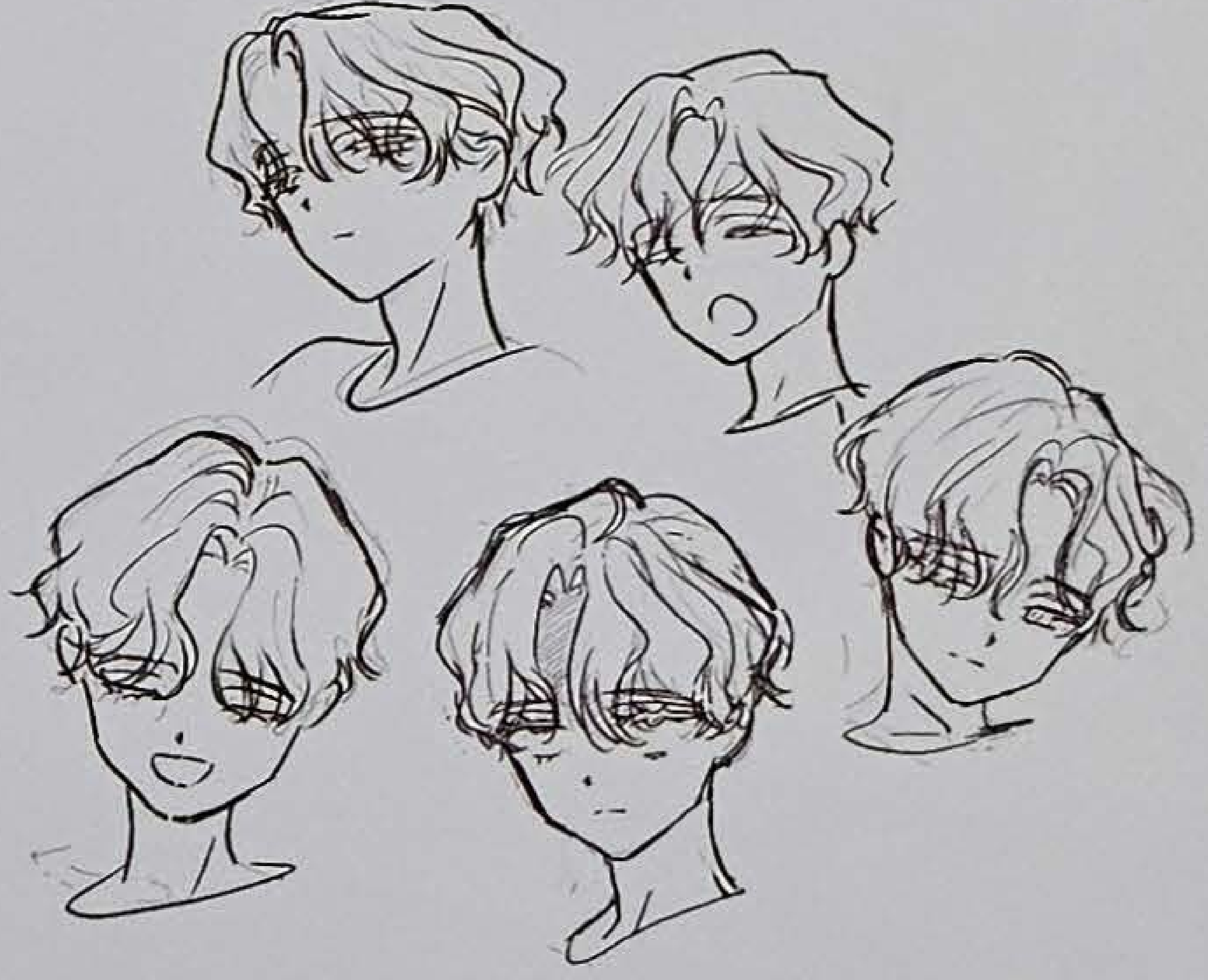
Out of all the characters, Luka was drawn with the most "unapproachable elite" vibes. While we initially drew him like a prickly noble, as the attempts went on we decided that it was more fitting for him to have a softer face in order to exemplify the fact that he looks like an angel on the outside hiding a demon on the inside.

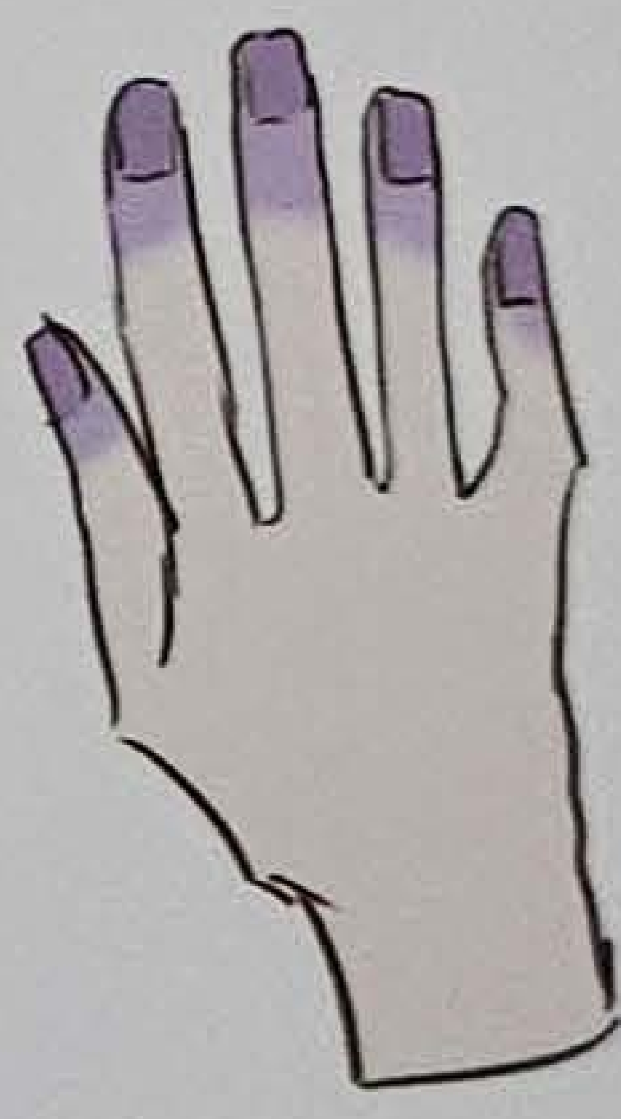










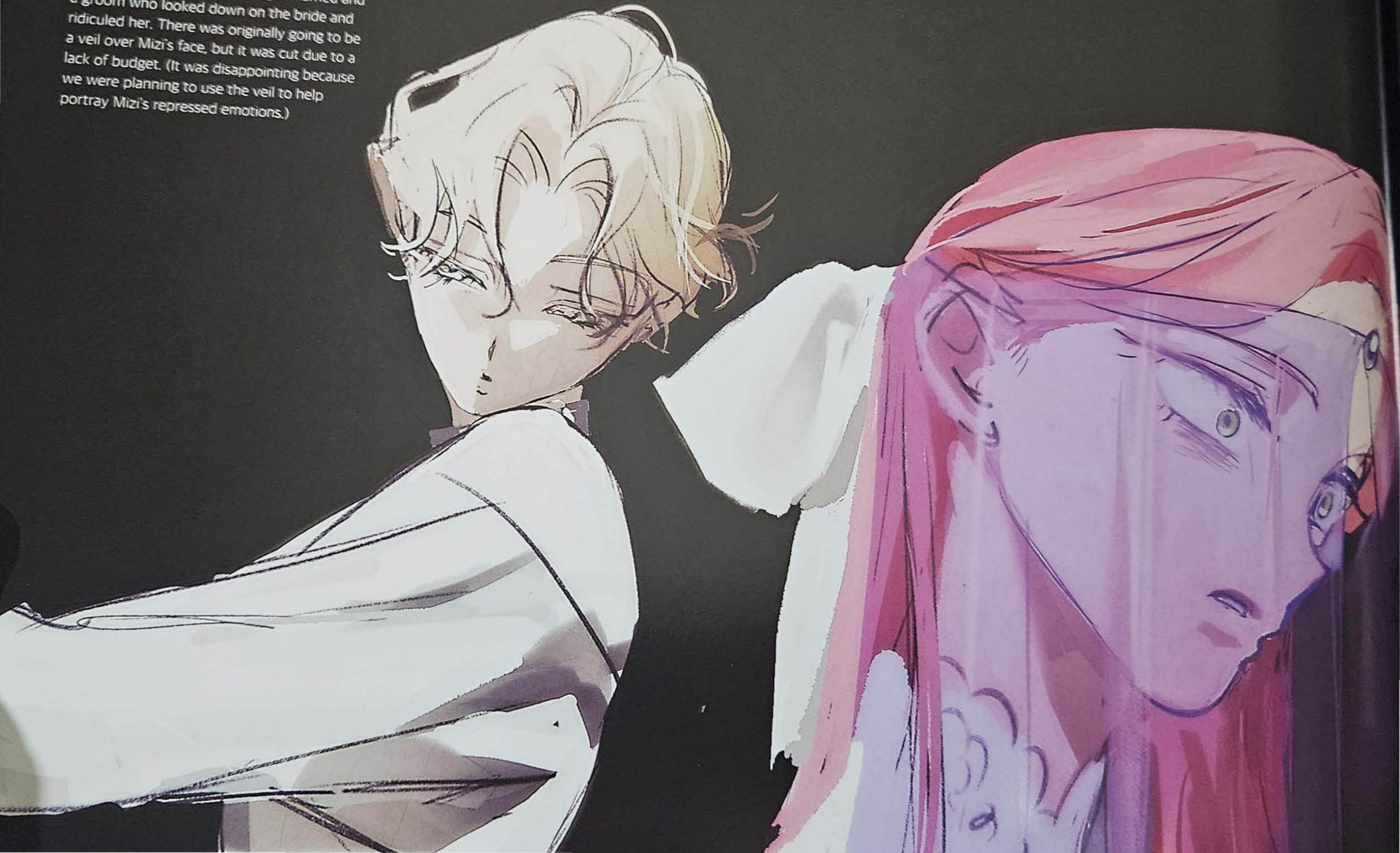


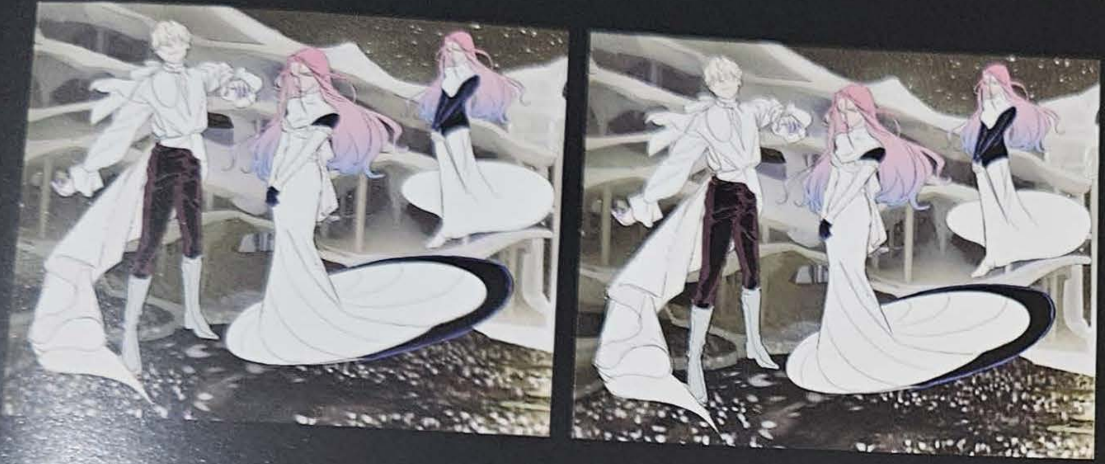
Initial Concept

The outfit was based on *The Little Prince*. We needed to capture the innocence of *The Little Prince*, but also needed to make it difficult to guess his age. During production, the ends of his fingers became purple in order to fit the design. This would later become important foreshadowing to Luka's story.

ROUND 5 | Concept Art

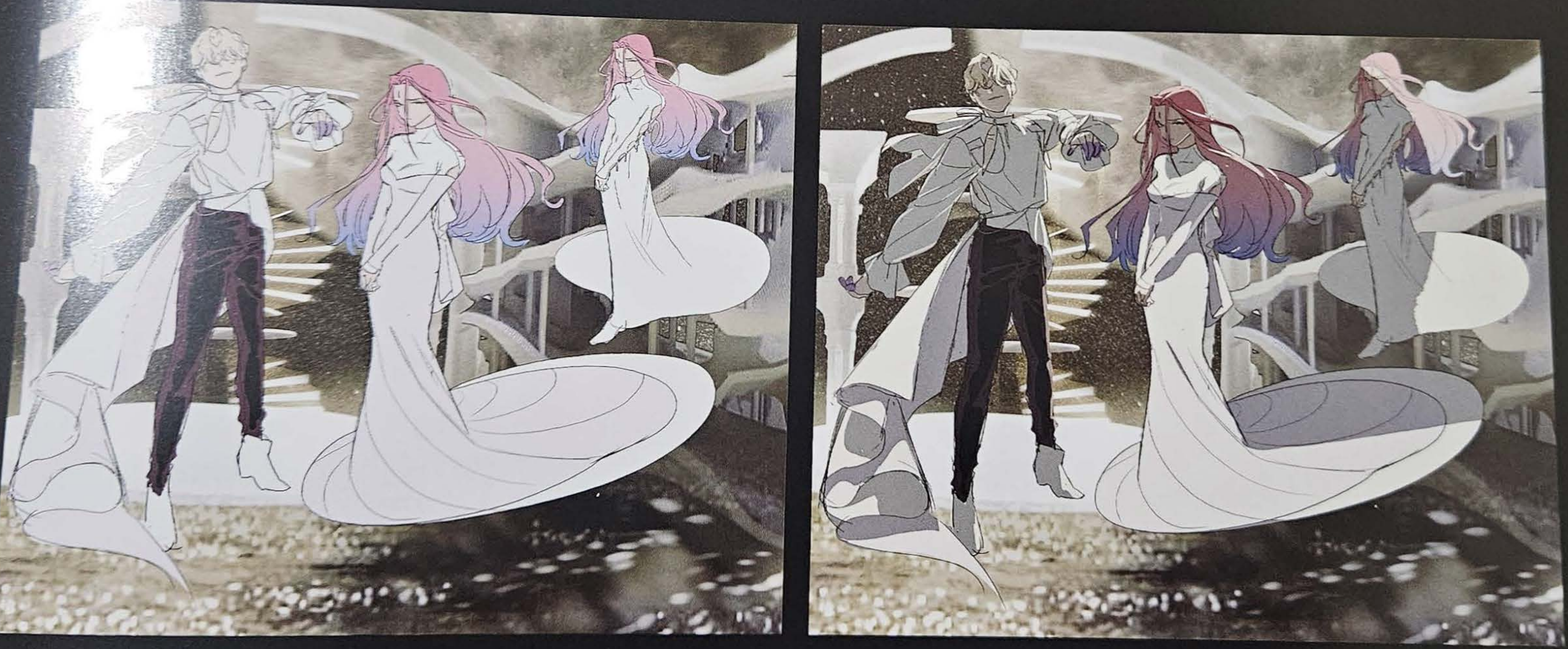
- Director VIVINOS's concept art, which became the foundation of ROUND 5. The theme for ROUND 5 was "arranged marriage." The general framing we were going for was of a bride who didn't want to get married and a groom who looked down on the bride and ridiculed her. There was originally going to be a veil over Mizi's face, but it was cut due to a lack of budget. (It was disappointing because we were planning to use the veil to help portray Mizi's repressed emotions.)

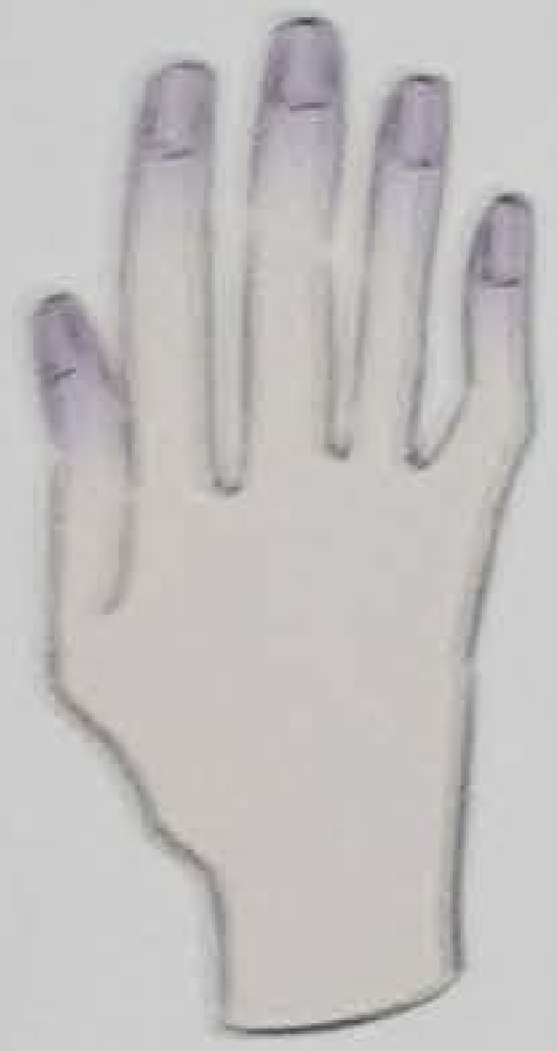


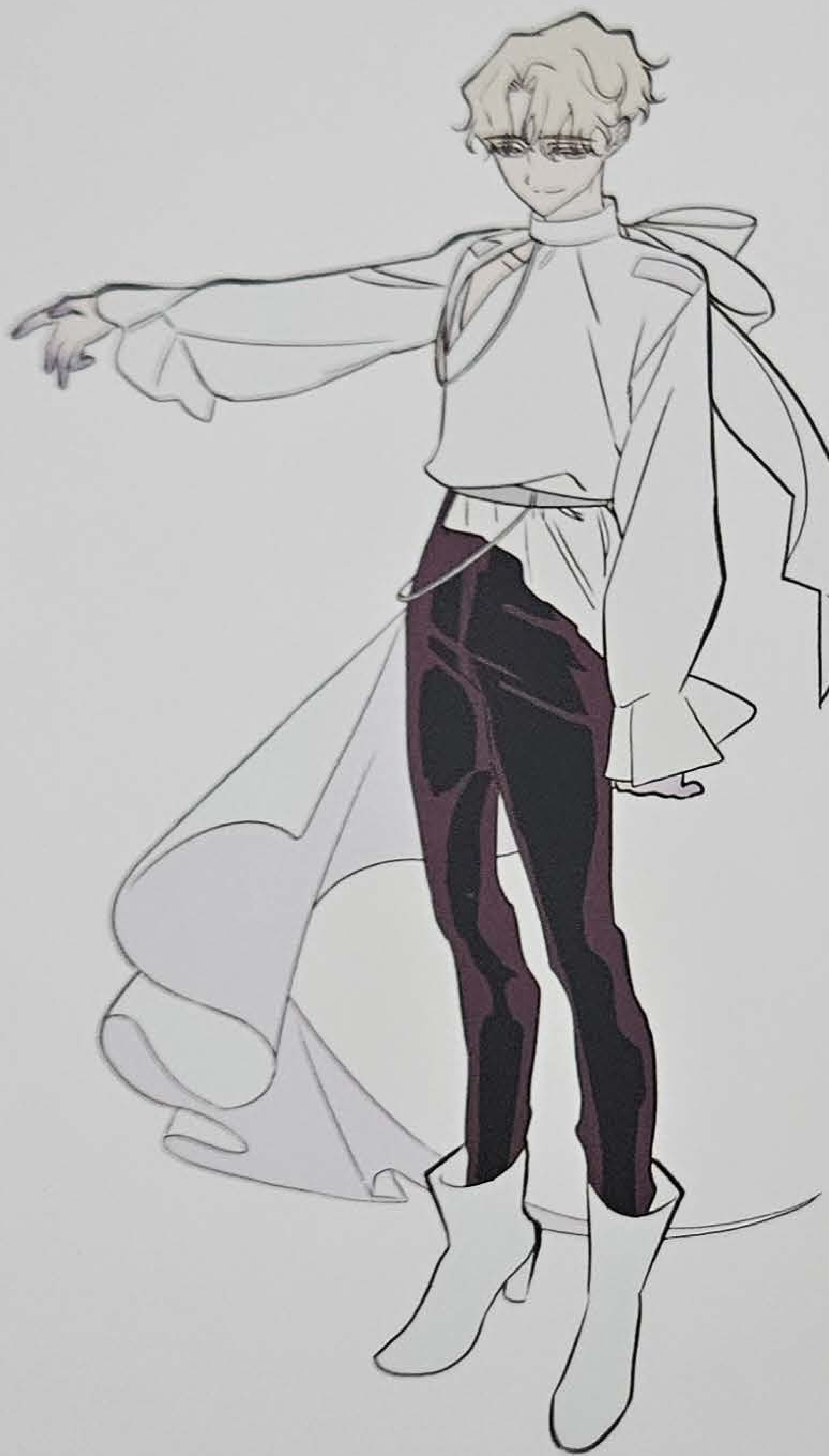


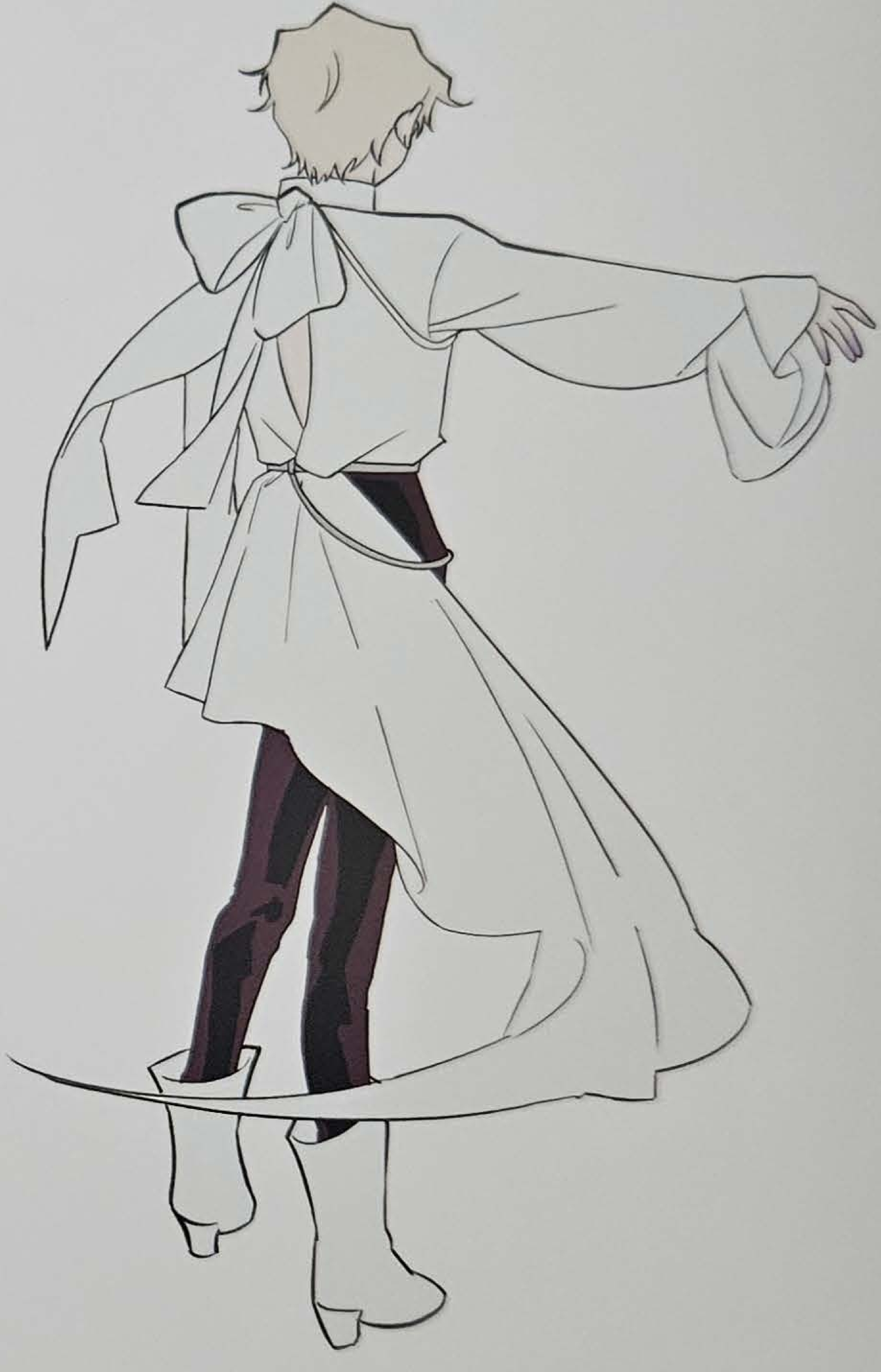
▲ Draft

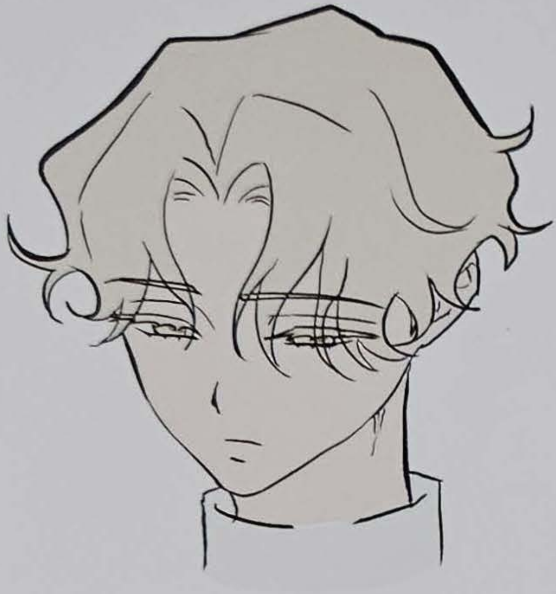
◆ Co-Director QMENG's concept art that was made with Director VIVINOS's concept art as the base. Since Mizi's outfit gets torn toward the end of the video, her outfit was designed with that in mind.

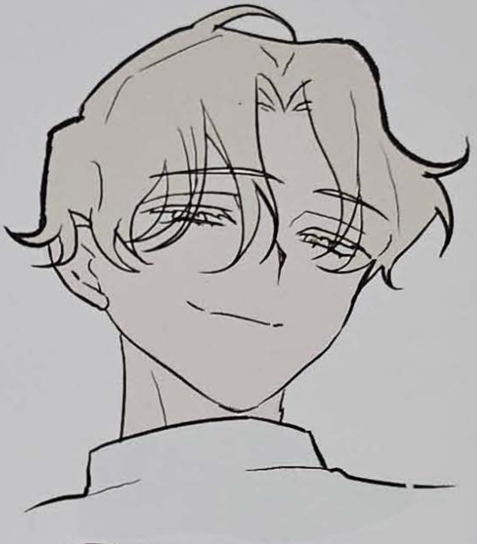


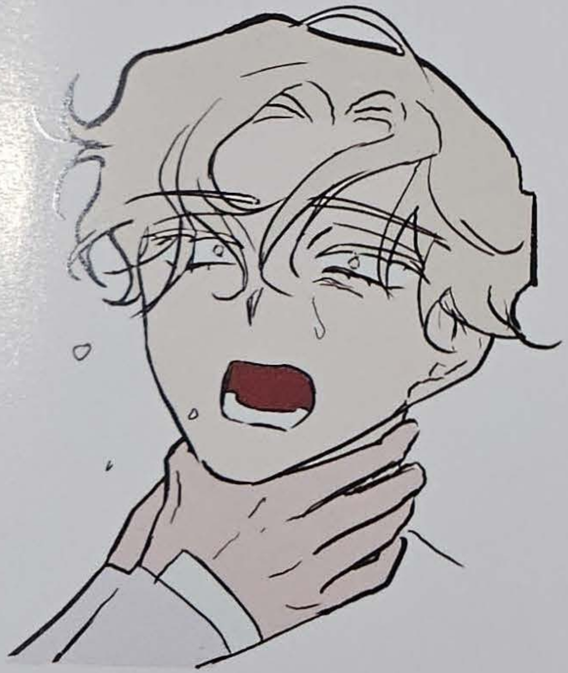


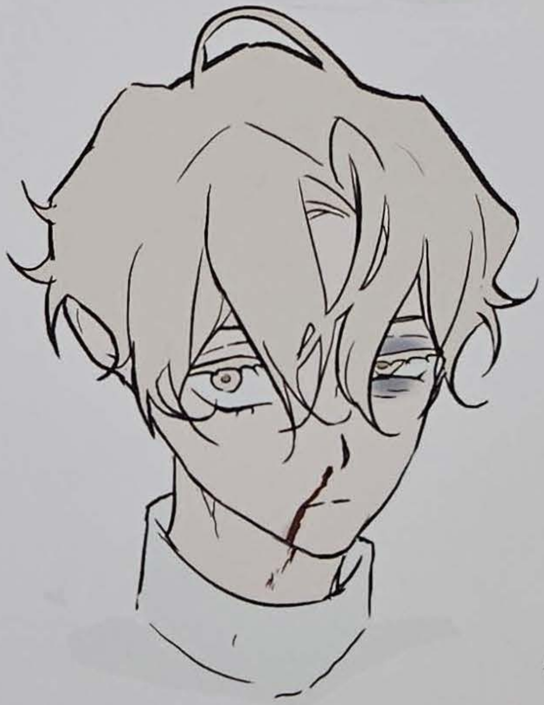


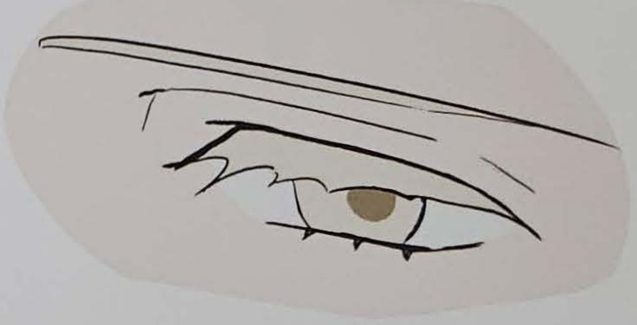








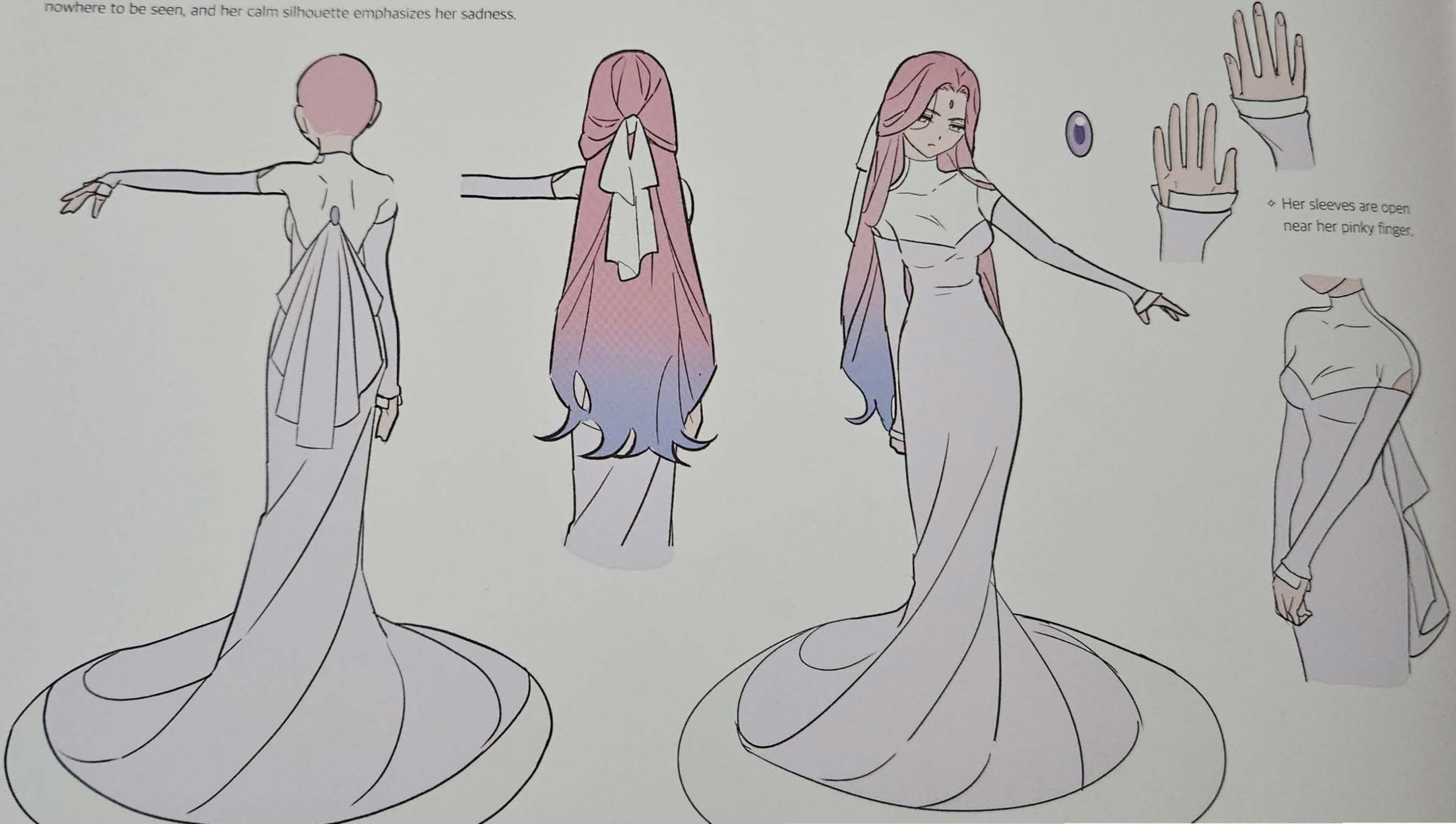




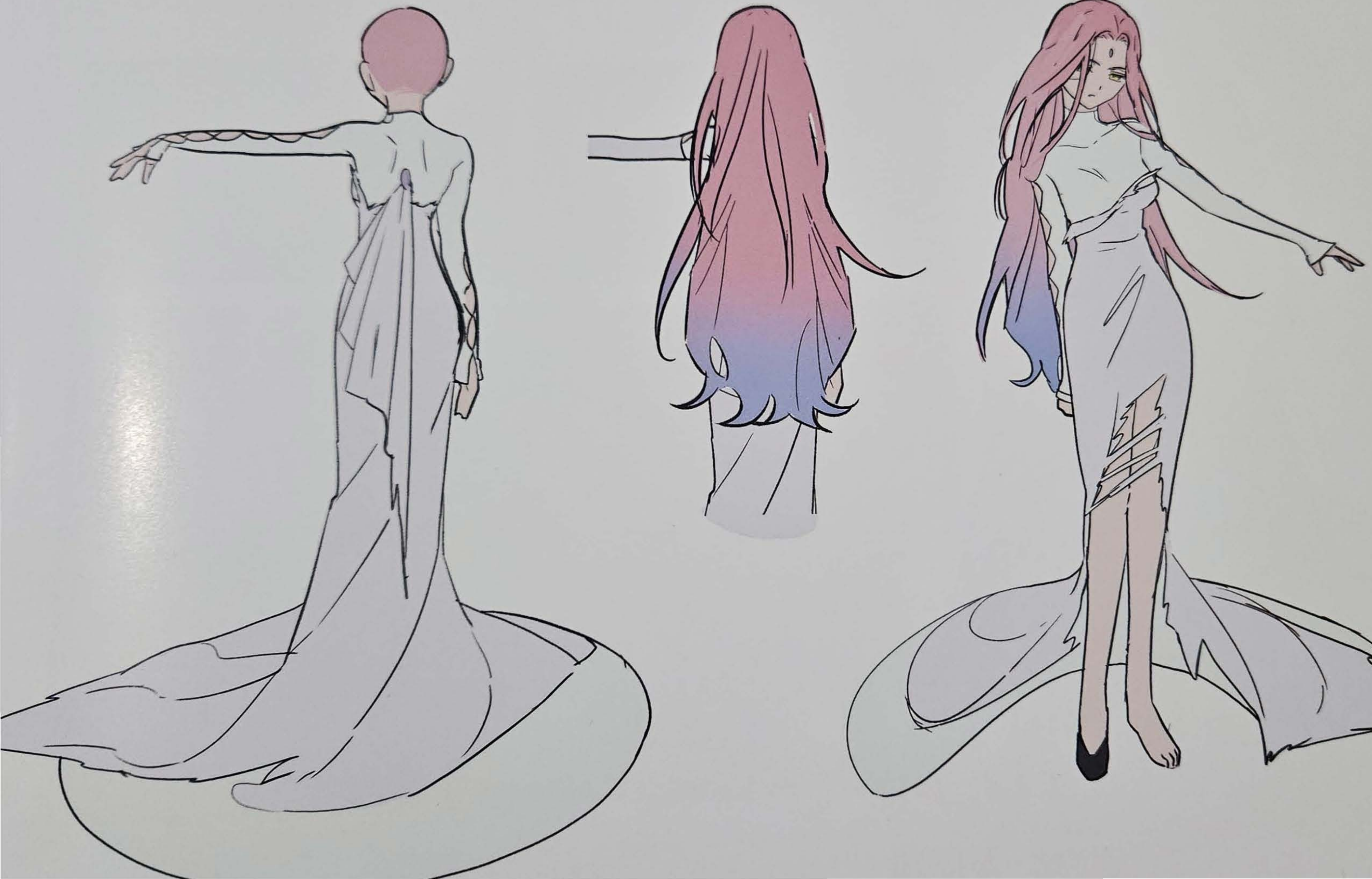
✧ Luka always plays the part of the perfect idol. However, for a brief moment on the stage you can catch a glimpse of his inner arrogance.

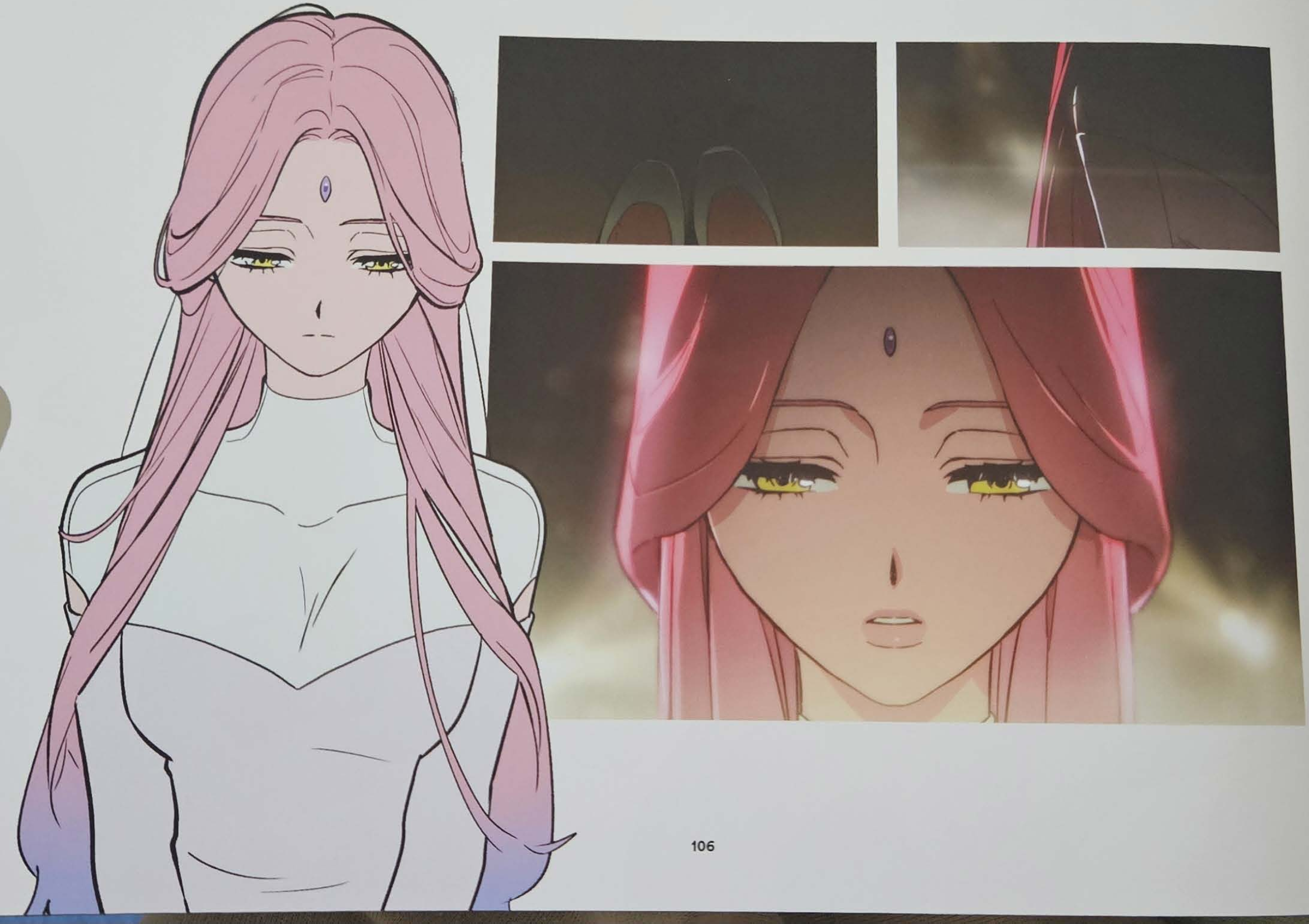
ROUND 5 | Mizi Character Sheet

- We needed to show Mizi's psychological state and how she lost her will to go on after losing Sua. Mizi's usual positive and carefree self is nowhere to be seen, and her calm silhouette emphasizes her sadness.

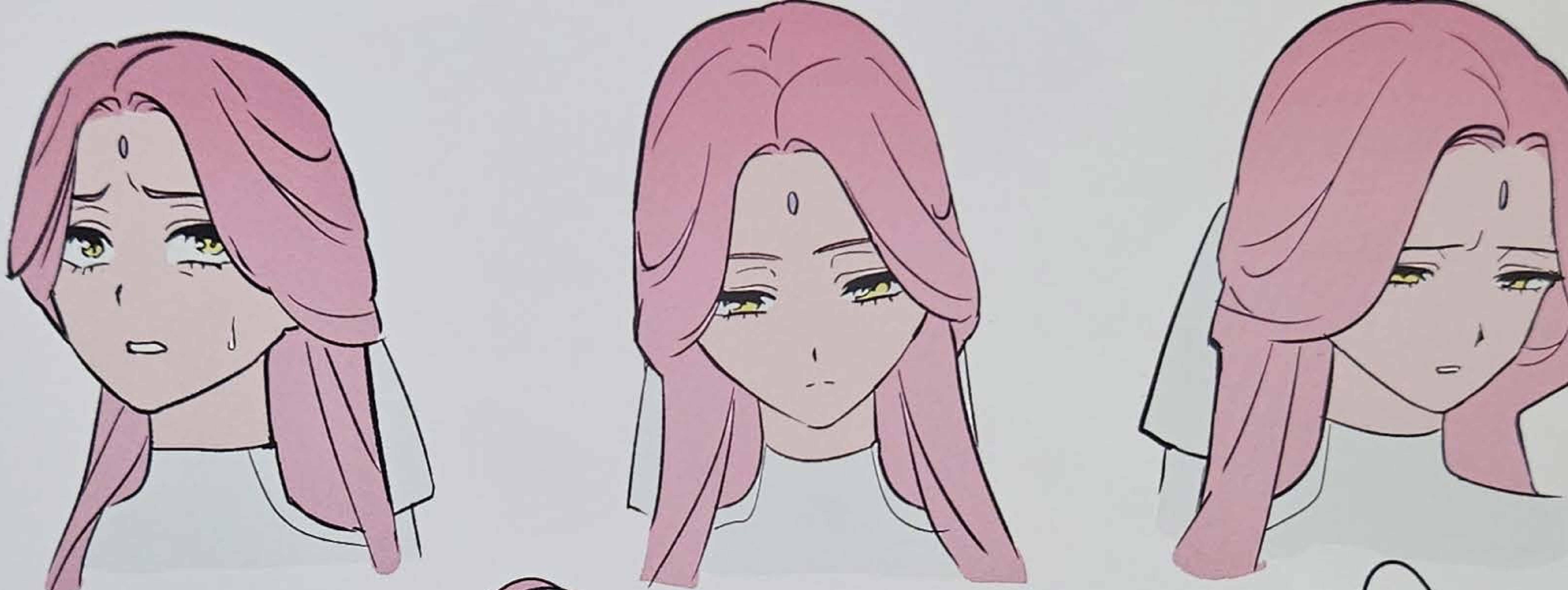


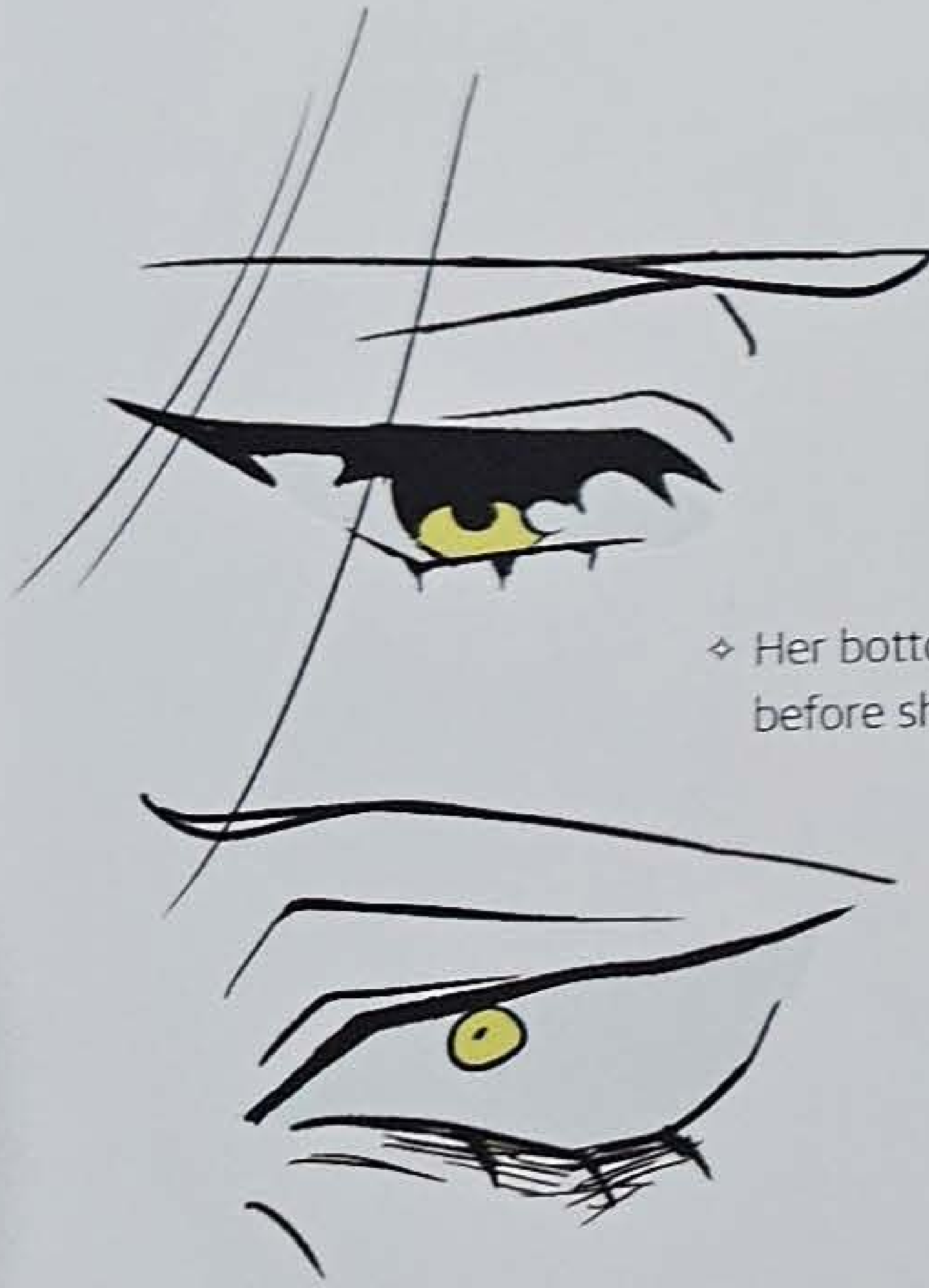
- Her sleeves are open near her pinky finger.





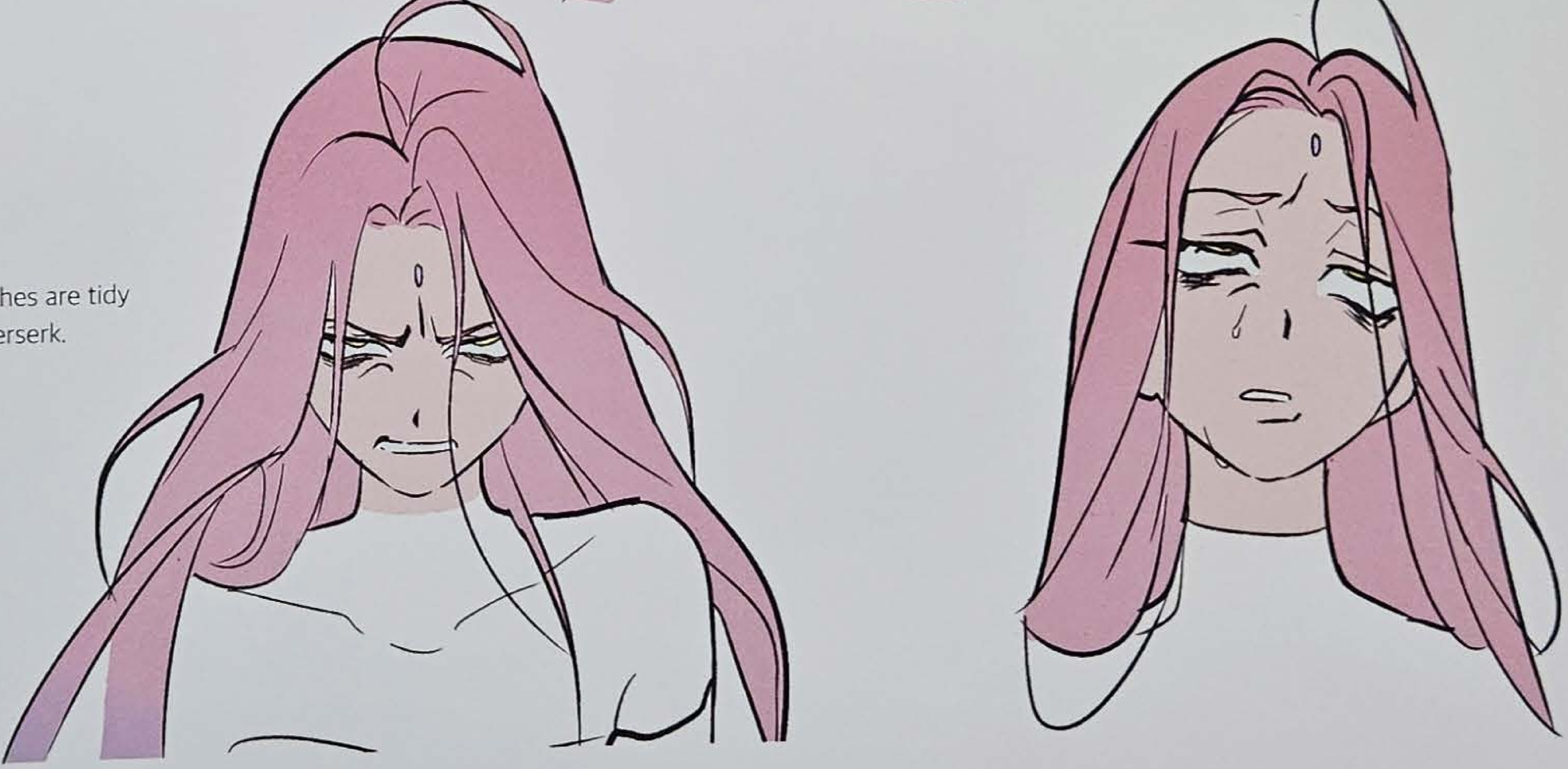
✧ With Mizi going through so many emotions, it also leads to her making a variety of expressions on the character sheet.





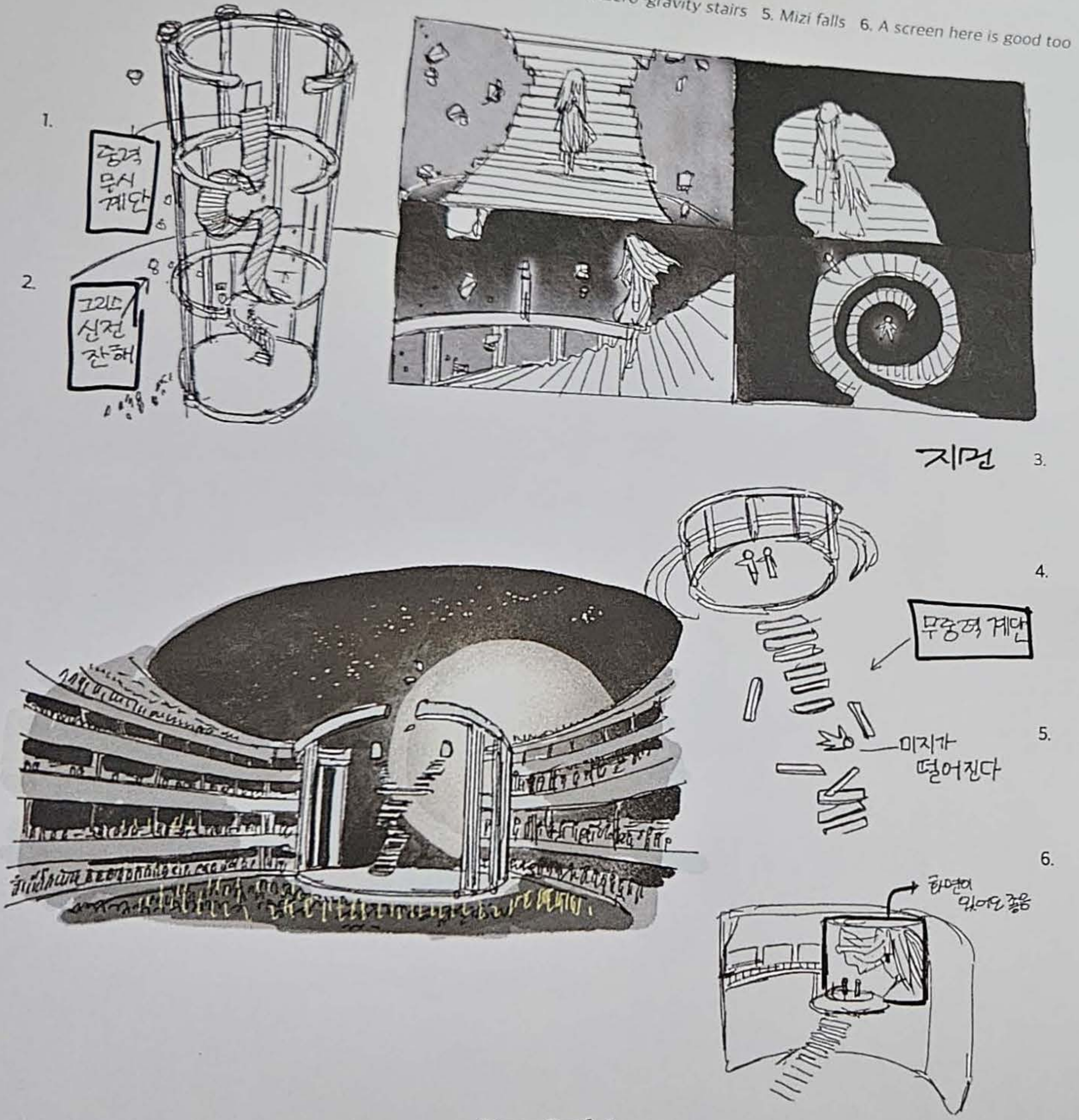
✧ Her bottom eyelashes are tidy before she goes berserk.

✧ After going berserk, there are bags added under her eyes + her bottom eyelashes get pushed to the side.



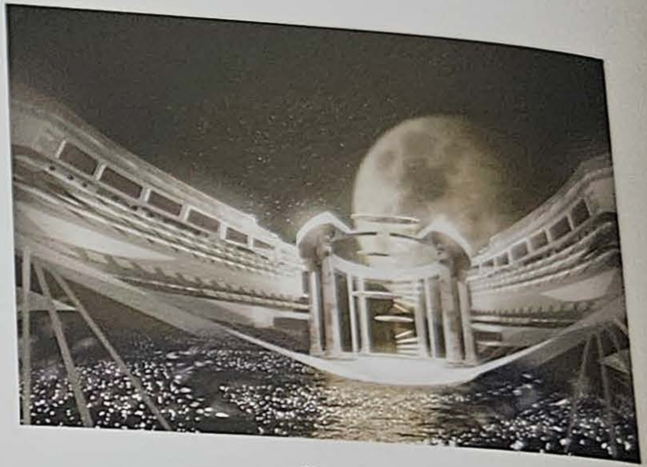
✧ Her psychological state is a mess after experiencing despair for the first time in her life, and her inner violent tendencies start creeping their way to the surface.

1. The stairs ignore gravity 2. Greek temple debris 3. Surface 4. Zero-gravity stairs 5. Mizi falls 6. A screen here is good too


1.
중력
무시
계단
2.
그리스
신전
잔해
지면
3.
4.
무중력 계단
5.
미지가
떨어진다
6.
화면이
있어도 좋음

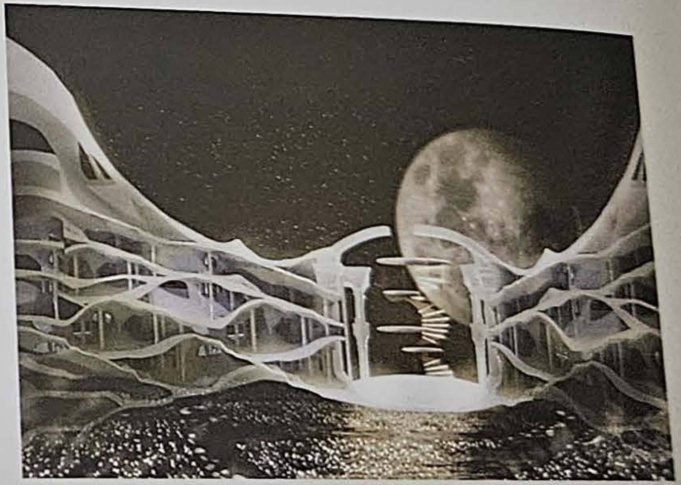
▲ Stage Draft 1

This was sketched while thinking of a sci-fi opera house.



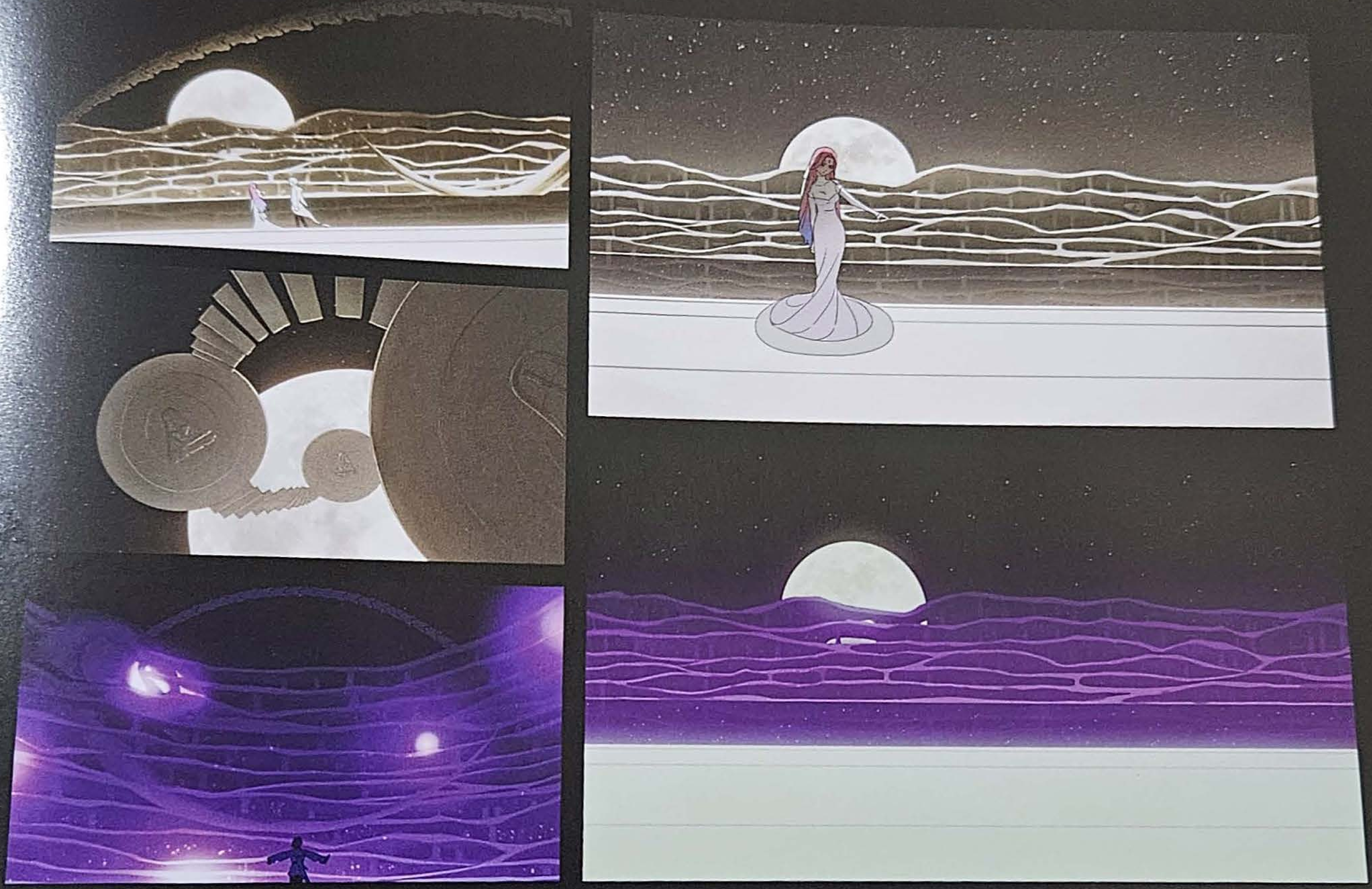
▲ Stage Draft 2

We wanted to capture the grandeur of an opera house.

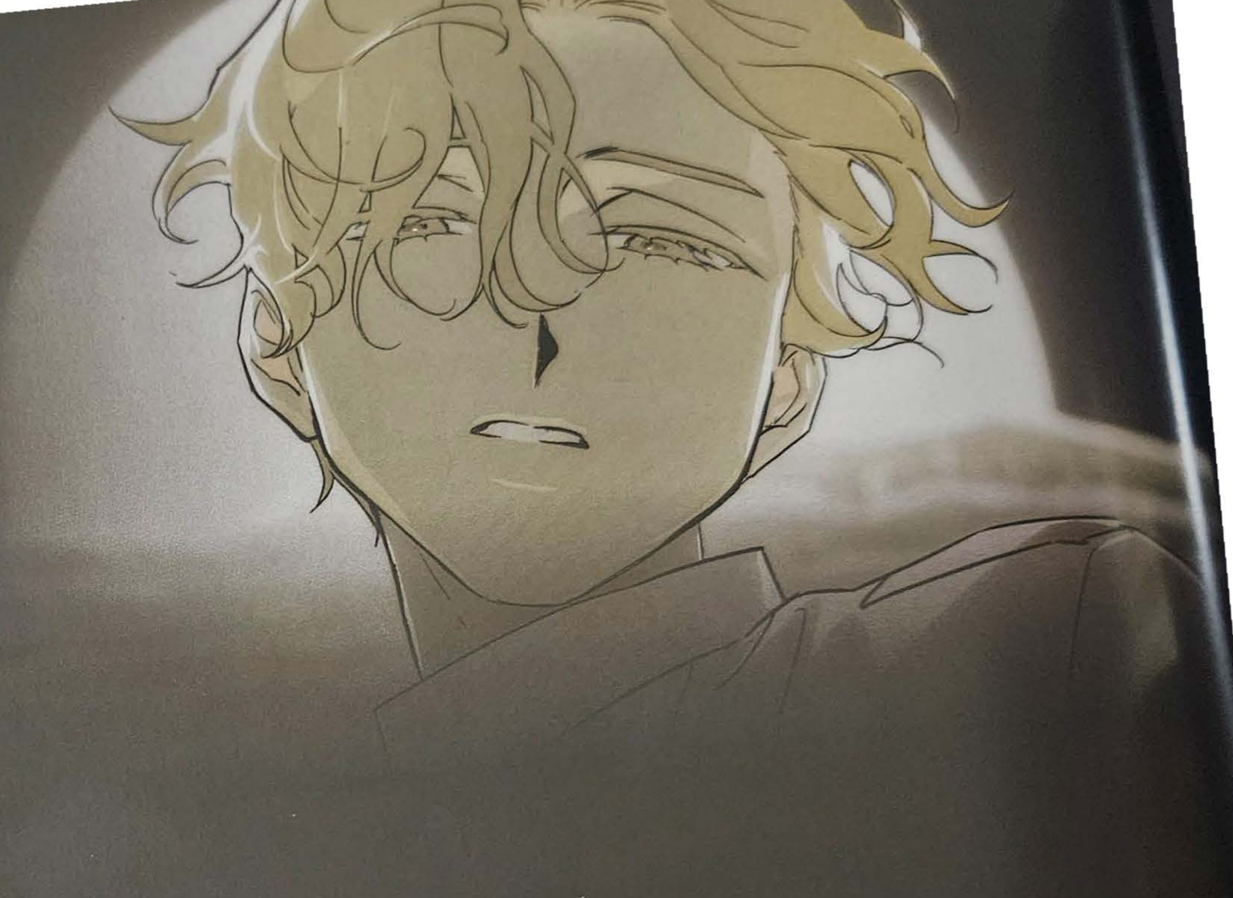


▲ Final Stage Design

We wanted the stage to seem more sci-fi than in the first draft, so we made the box seats more twisted and curved to create a more bizarre look.



❖ Unlike the previous stages, the Anakt Group made a special stage for Luka, winner of the previous season of Alien Stage.
Anakt Group's logo can be seen on the stage floor.



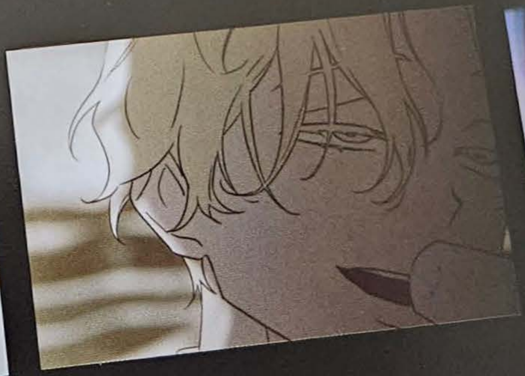
ALIEN STAGE ROUND 5 COMMENTARY

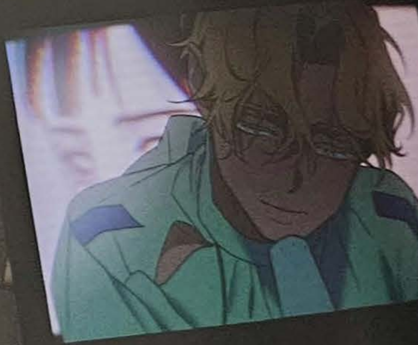
RULER OF MY HEART

Song by BL8M (LUKA), Rubyeye (MIZI)

Director Commentary

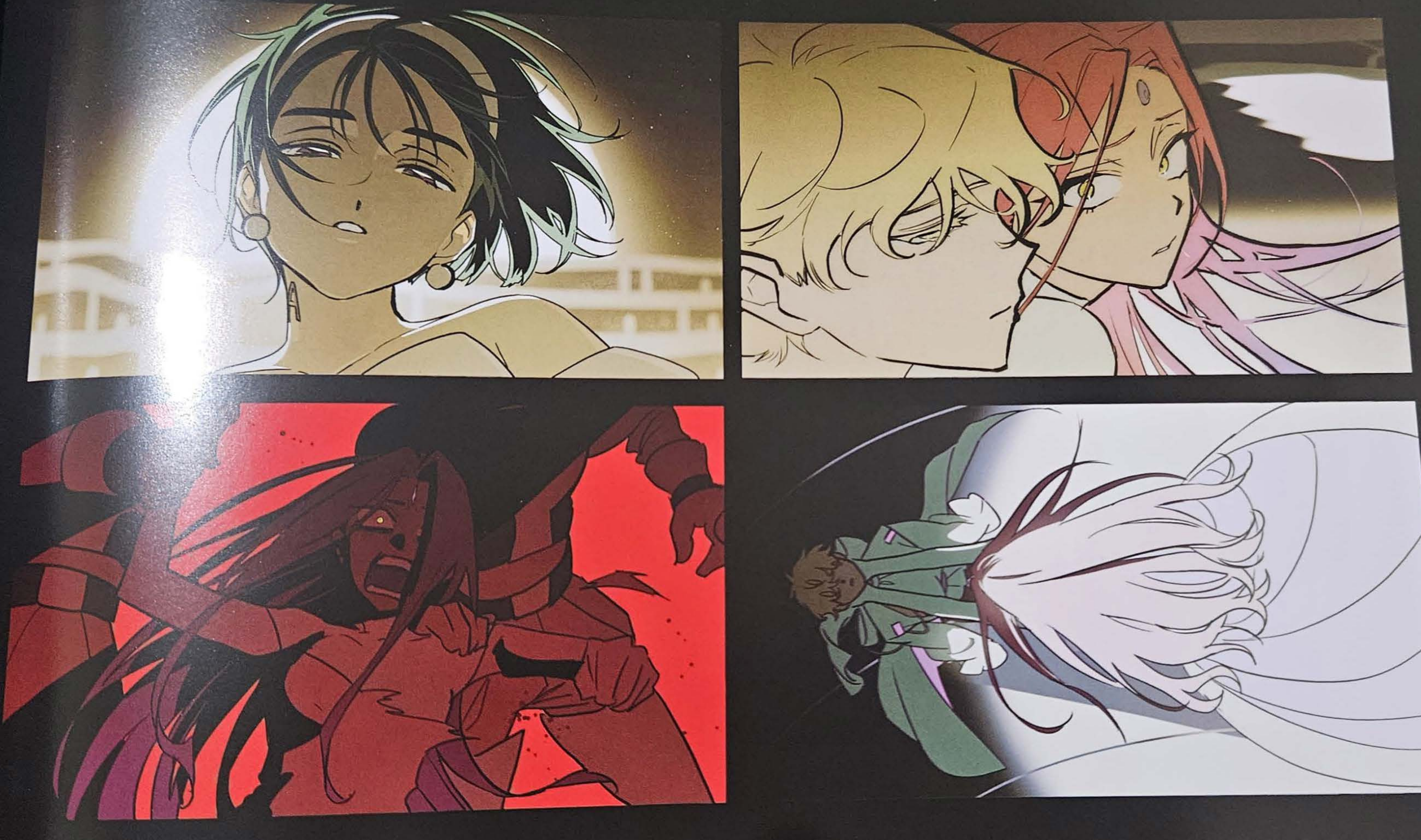
ROUND 5 had a lot of twists and turns, just like the previous episode. The most important factors to make this interesting were the changing expressions of the two characters and the overflowing energy during the highlight.

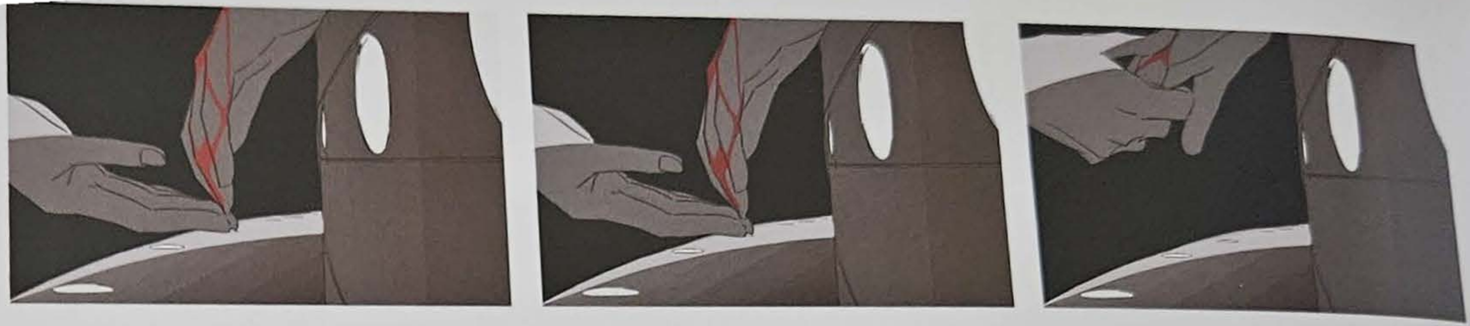




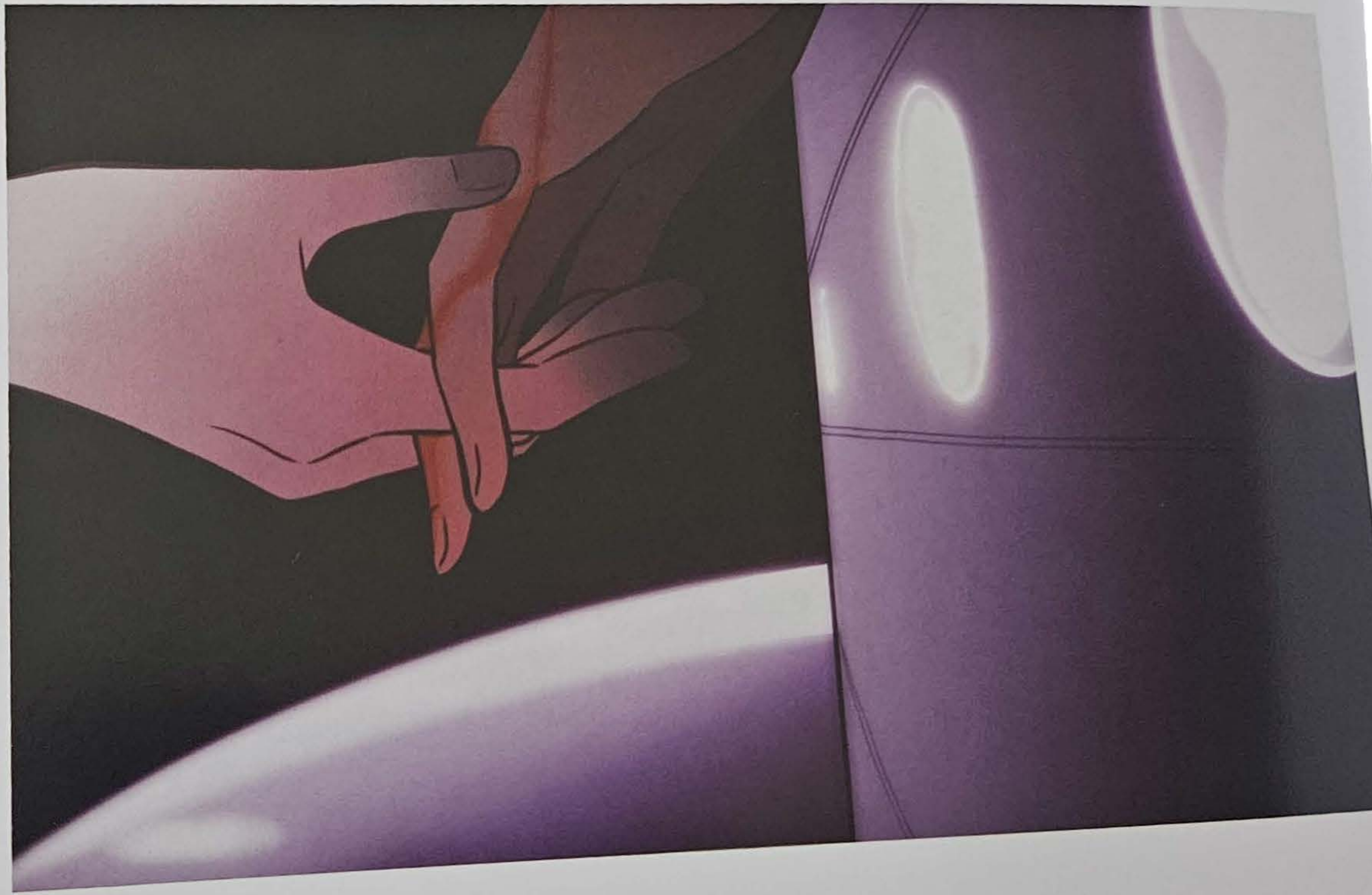
ROUND 5 | Image Board

Image board made by Director VIVINOS, who pitched the visuals for ROUND 5.



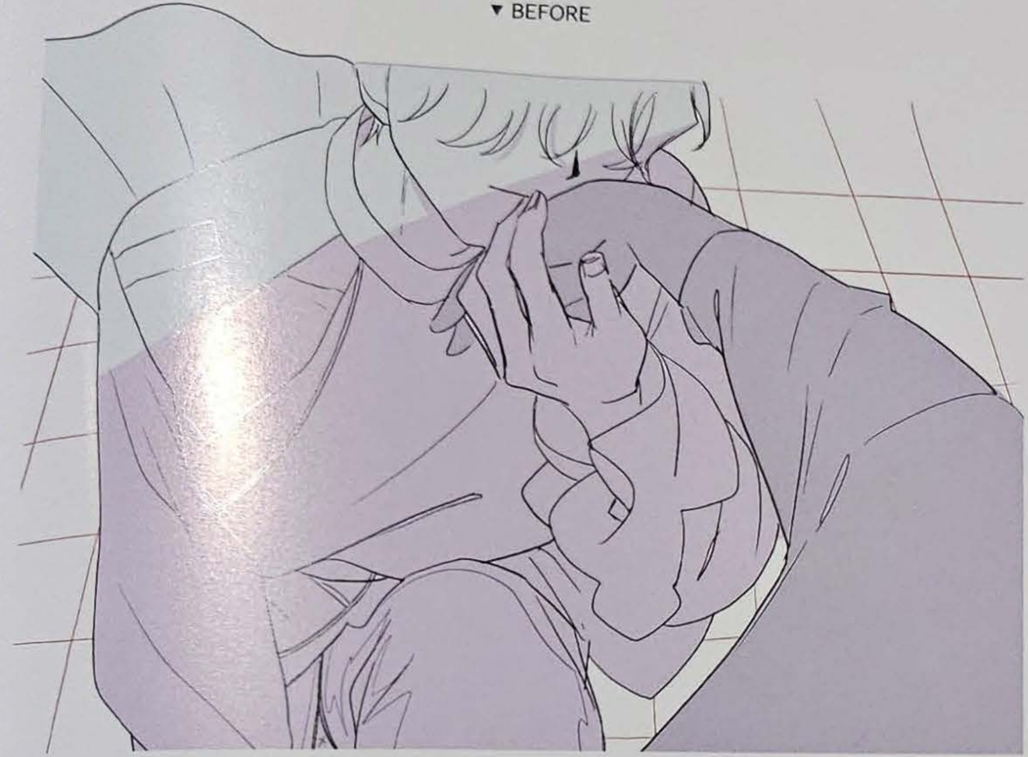


BEFORE ►



✧ We wanted to leave a strong impression with the first scene, so we decided to make their fingers interlock instead.

▼ BEFORE



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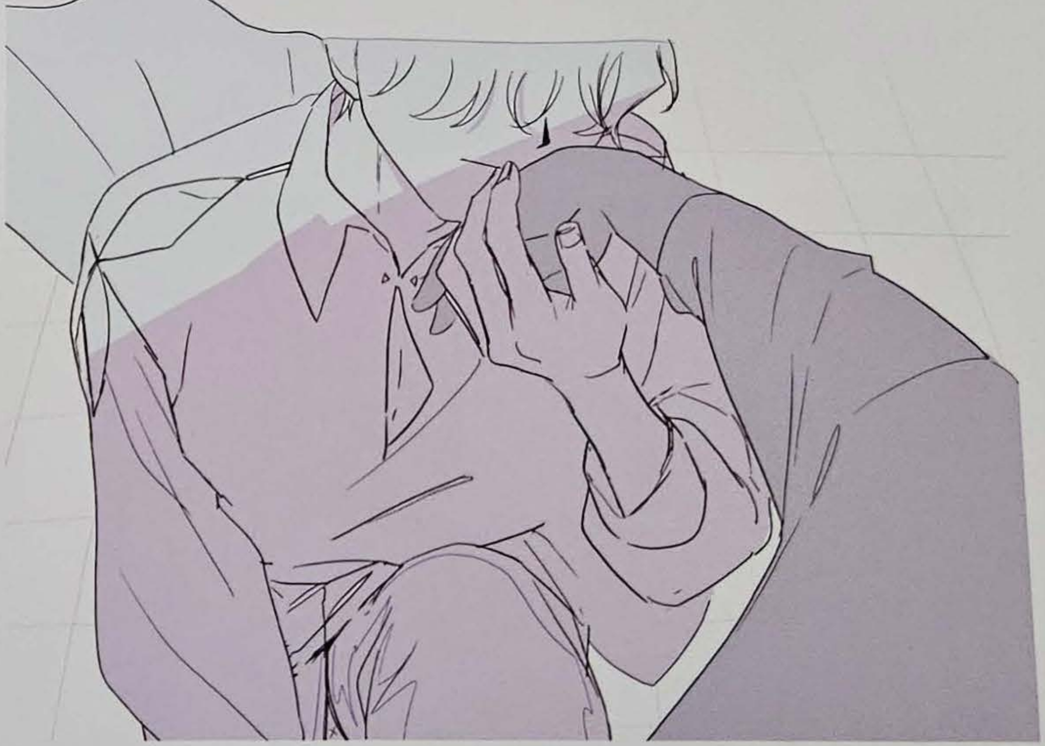
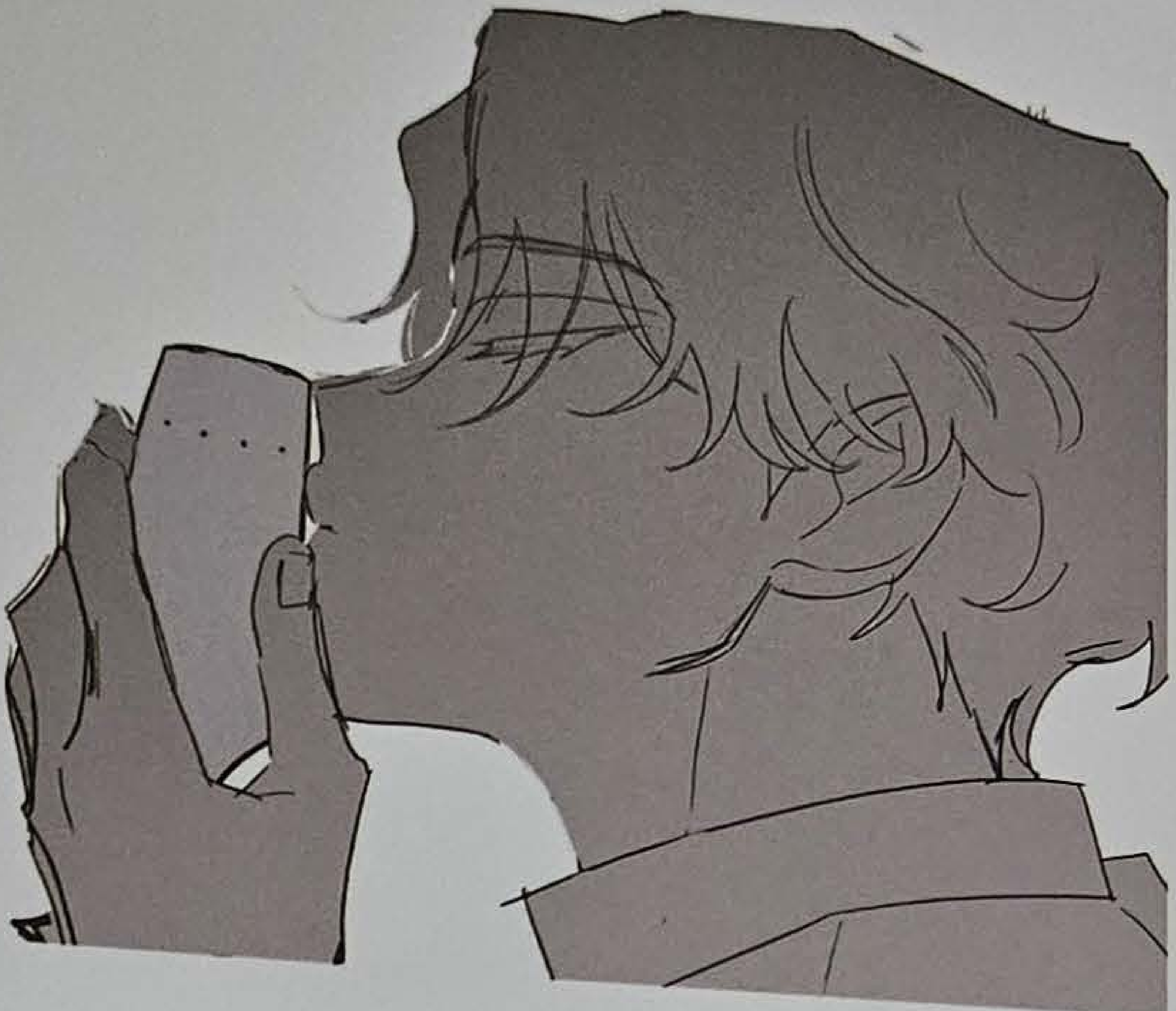
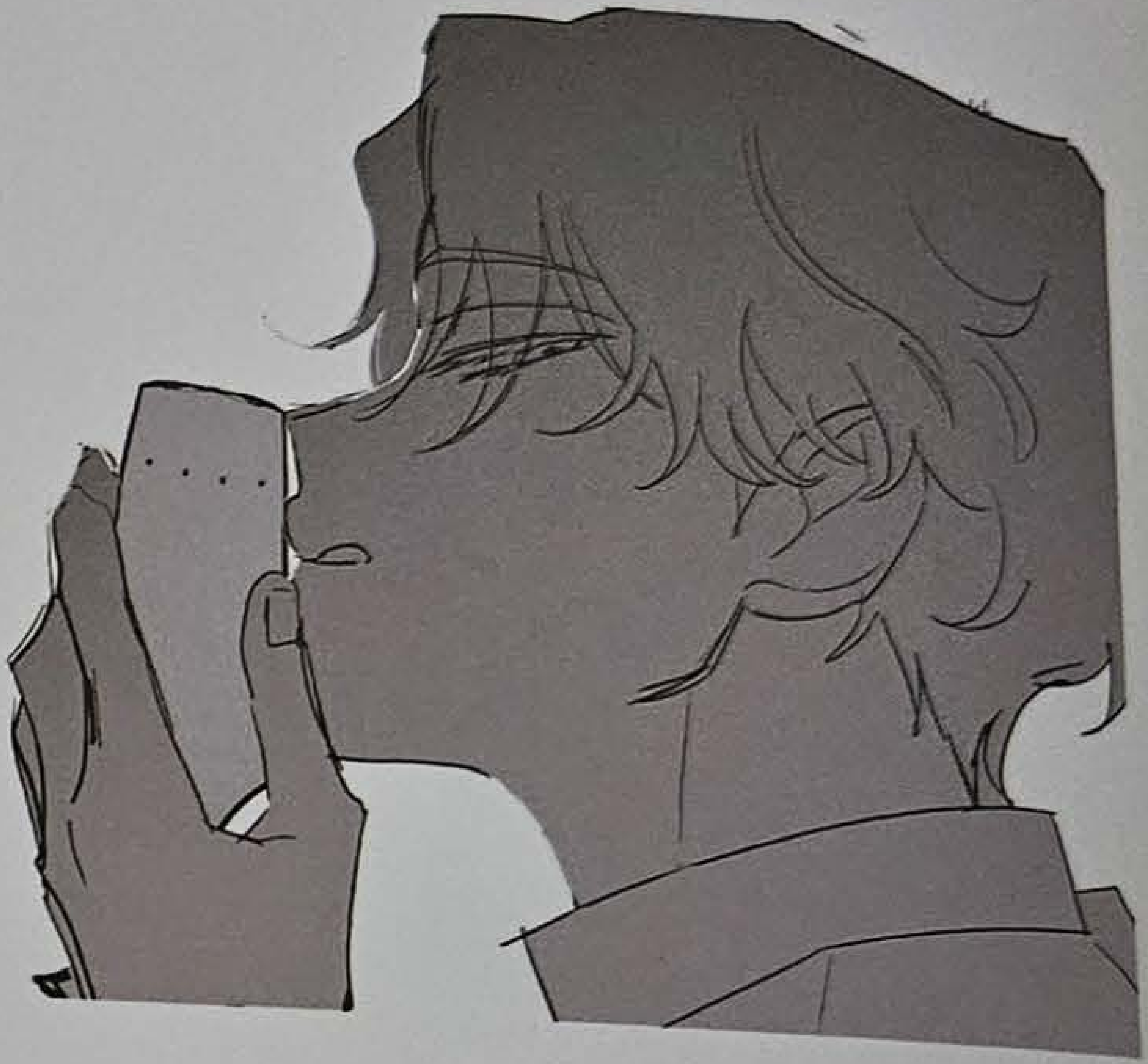
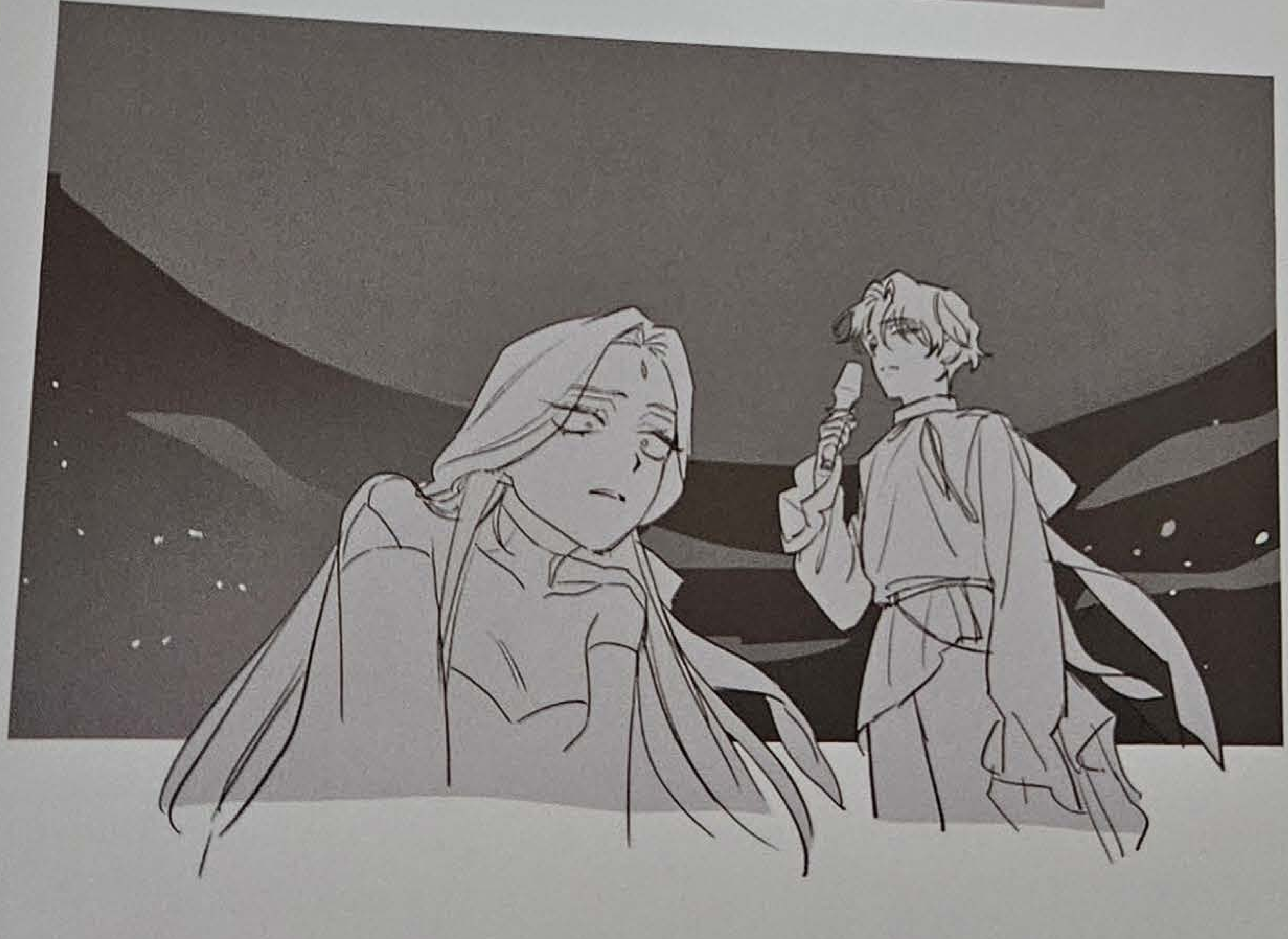
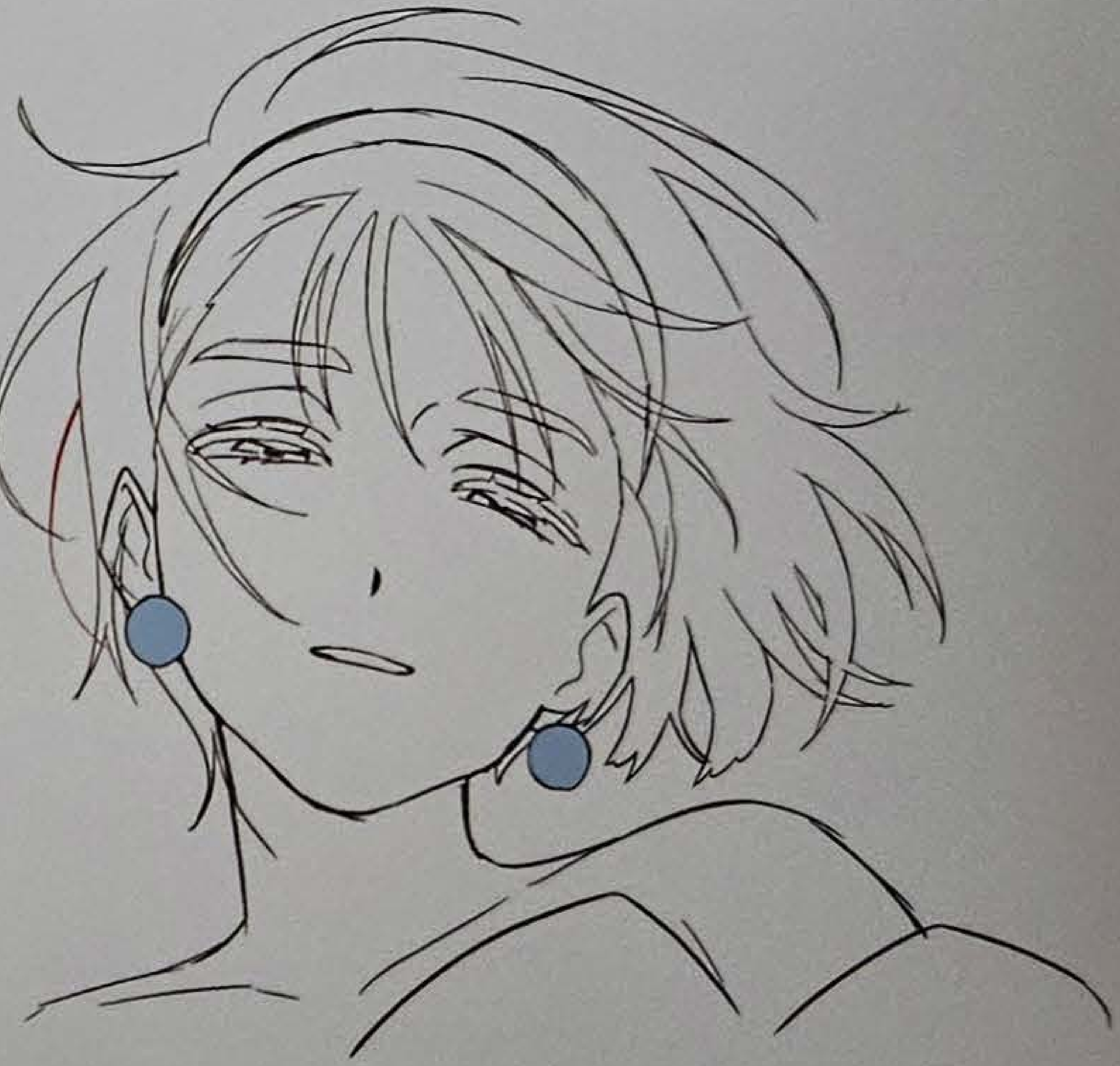


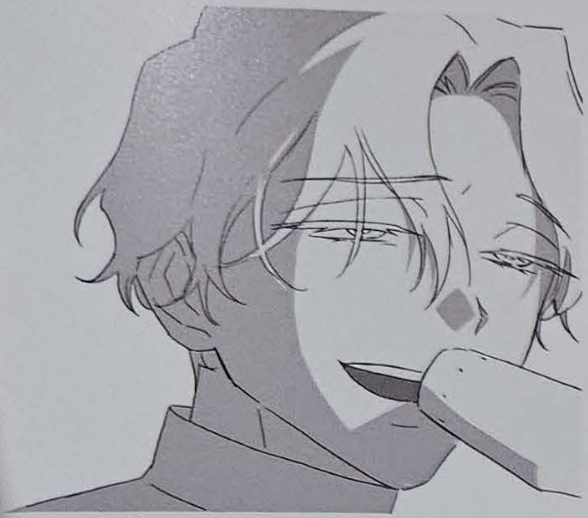
✧ A dangerous atmosphere accompanies Luka's first appearance. We wanted to show that he got here after winning ROUND 4, so we changed his outfit into one that's different from the rest of the episode.











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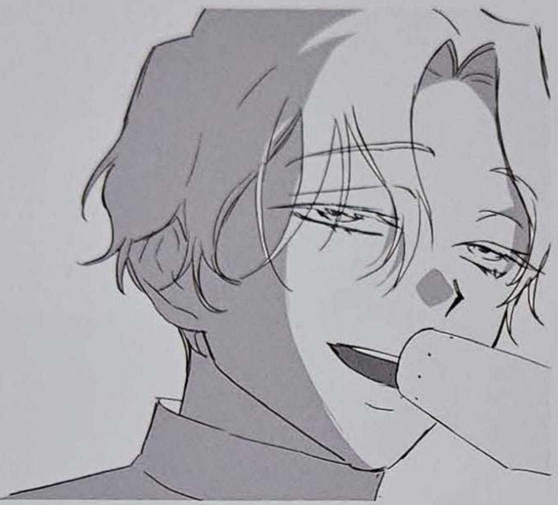

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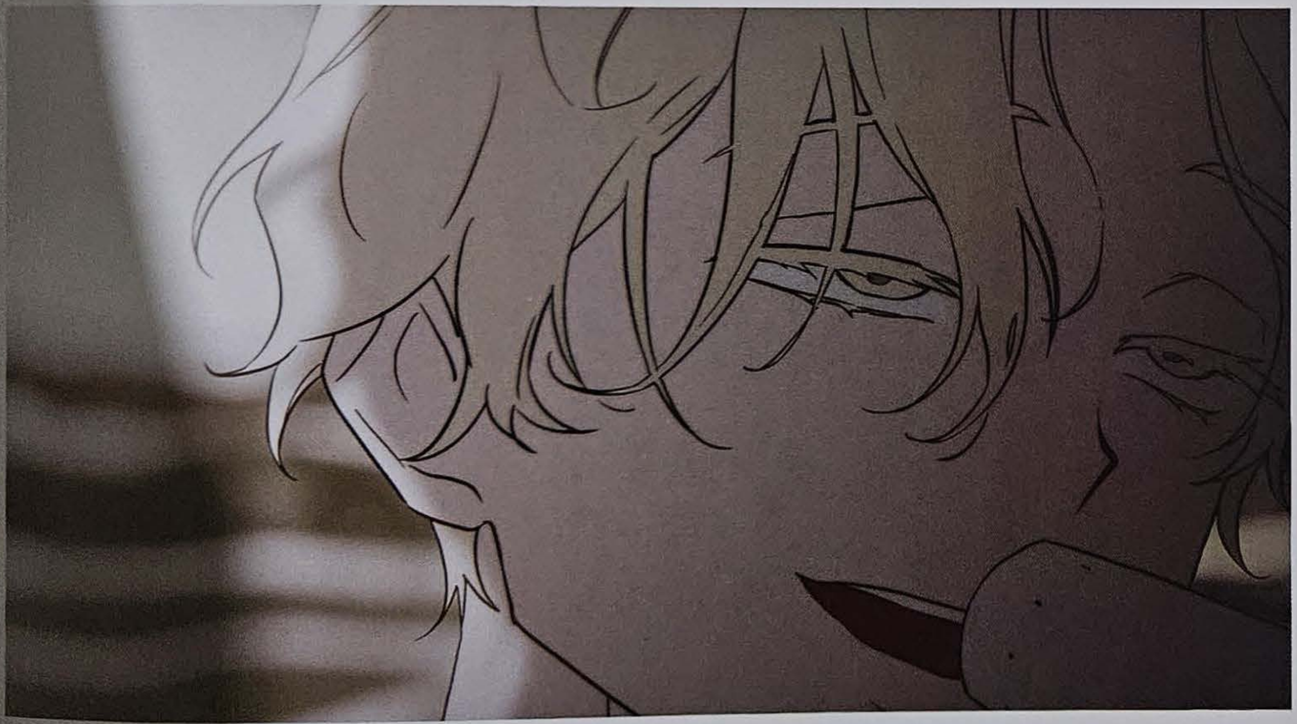
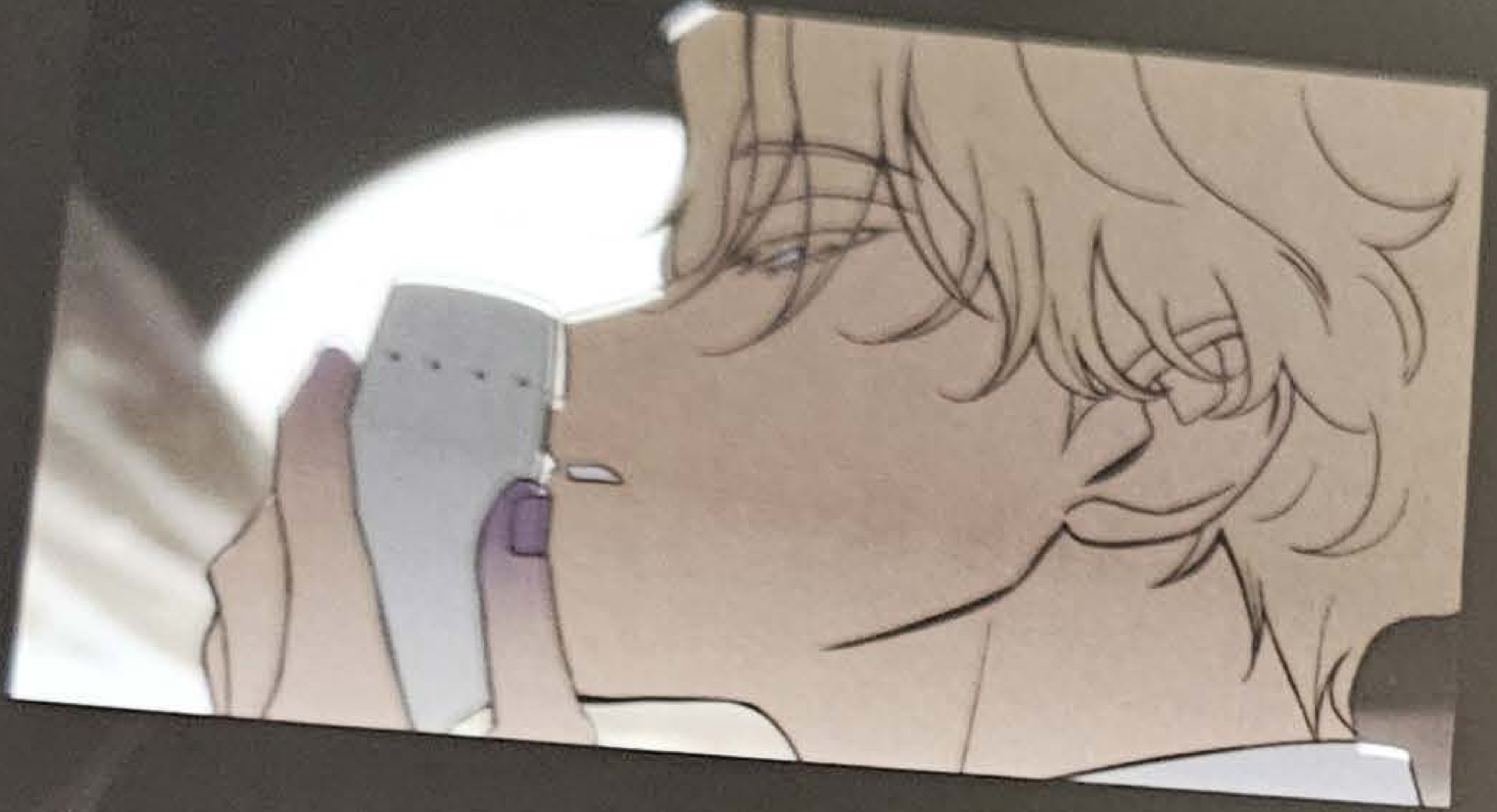


✧ Unlike previous characters whose entire growth process was shown, Luka appeared with a veil of mystery. This caused some difficulties for the production team in trying to capture his emotions correctly. Even a single expression from Luka would go through multiple phases of feedback and edits.

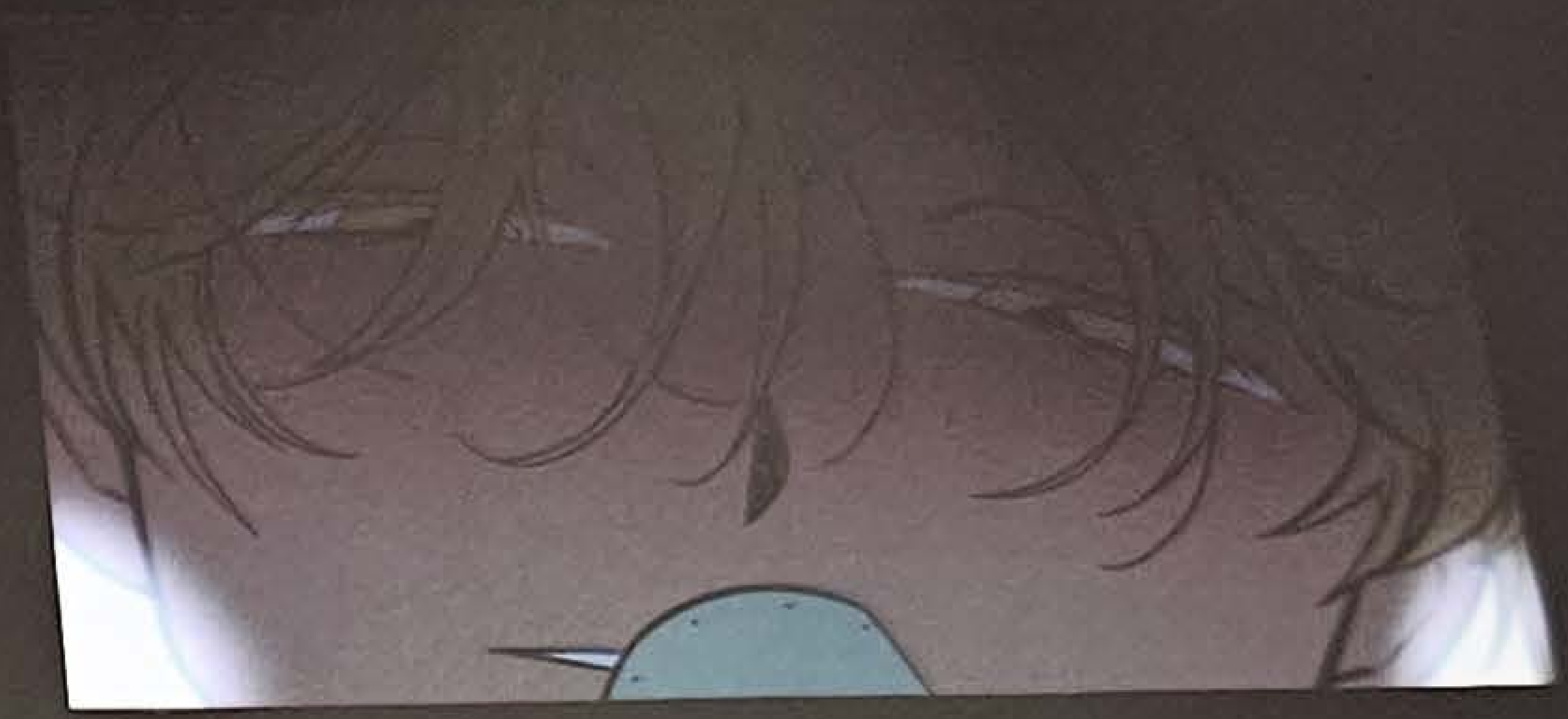
The camera only follows Luka, who has control of the show. Seeing as this was the stage for the "final boss" Luka, we wanted to have the camera chasing solely after Luka to emphasize the "total domination" of his victory.

- The scene where Luka and Mizi are dancing. There is no connection to be had between them here, just Luka one-sidedly pushing Mizi around.



For Luka, who had every part of his existence meticulously controlled since the day he was born, the stage was the only place where he could act as he wanted. Feeling a sense of superiority as he performs is his only joy, and all the pent-up energy from his restricted life is released whenever he goes onstage.

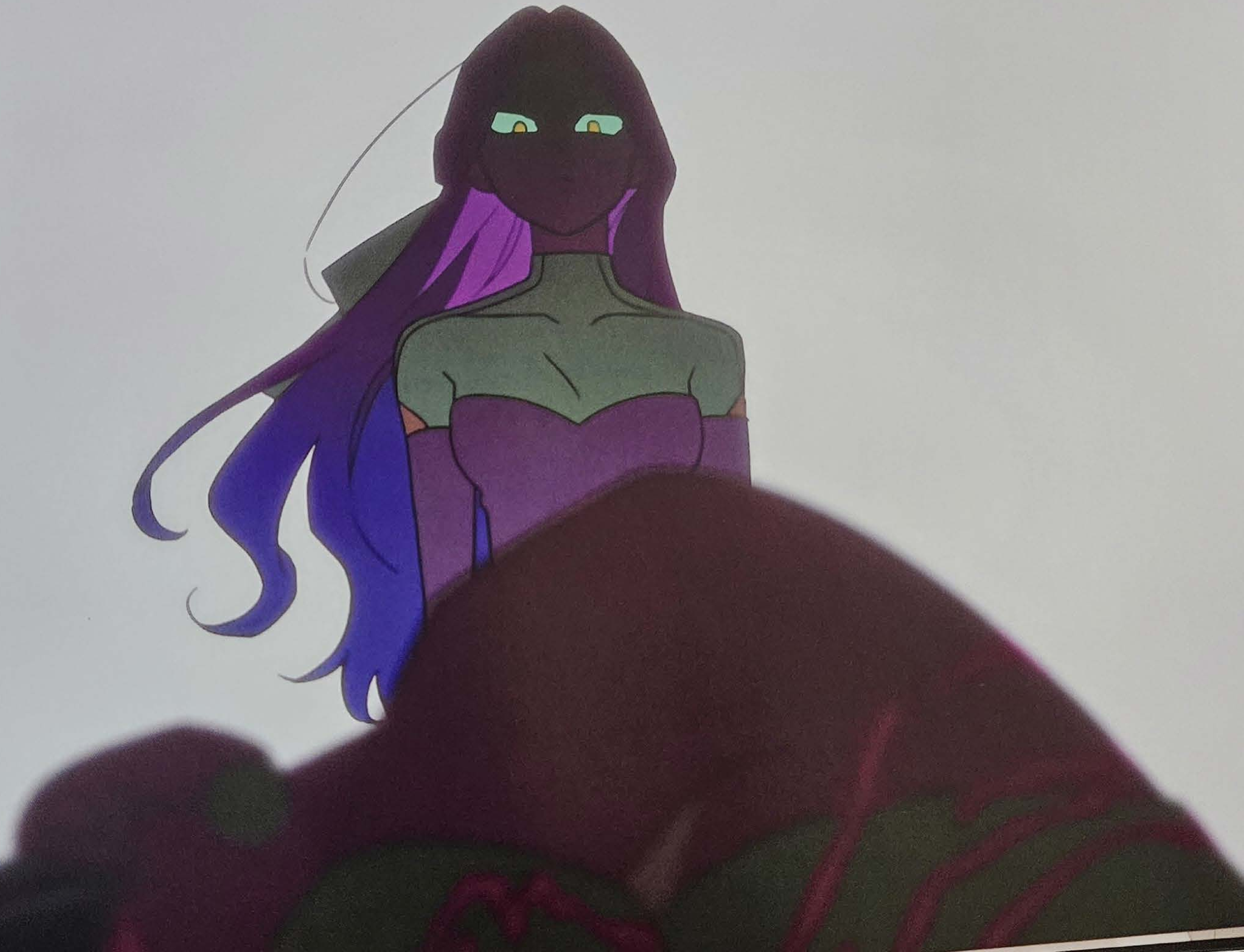
Even though Luka acted like he didn't care much about Mizi in the interview, in truth he had already finished watching her duet with Sua and analyzing everything about her. The confused Mizi became nothing more than a plaything for Luka.

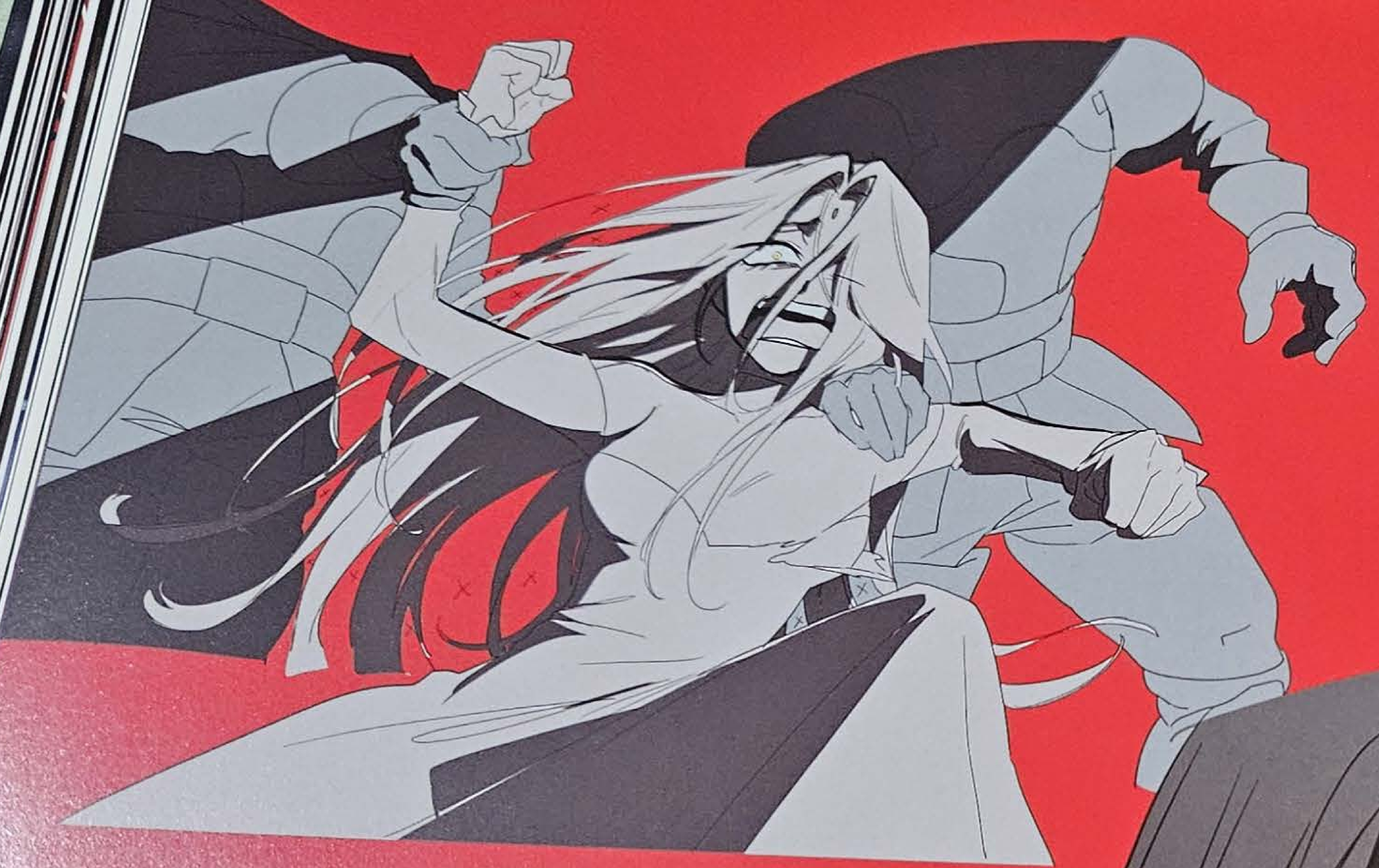


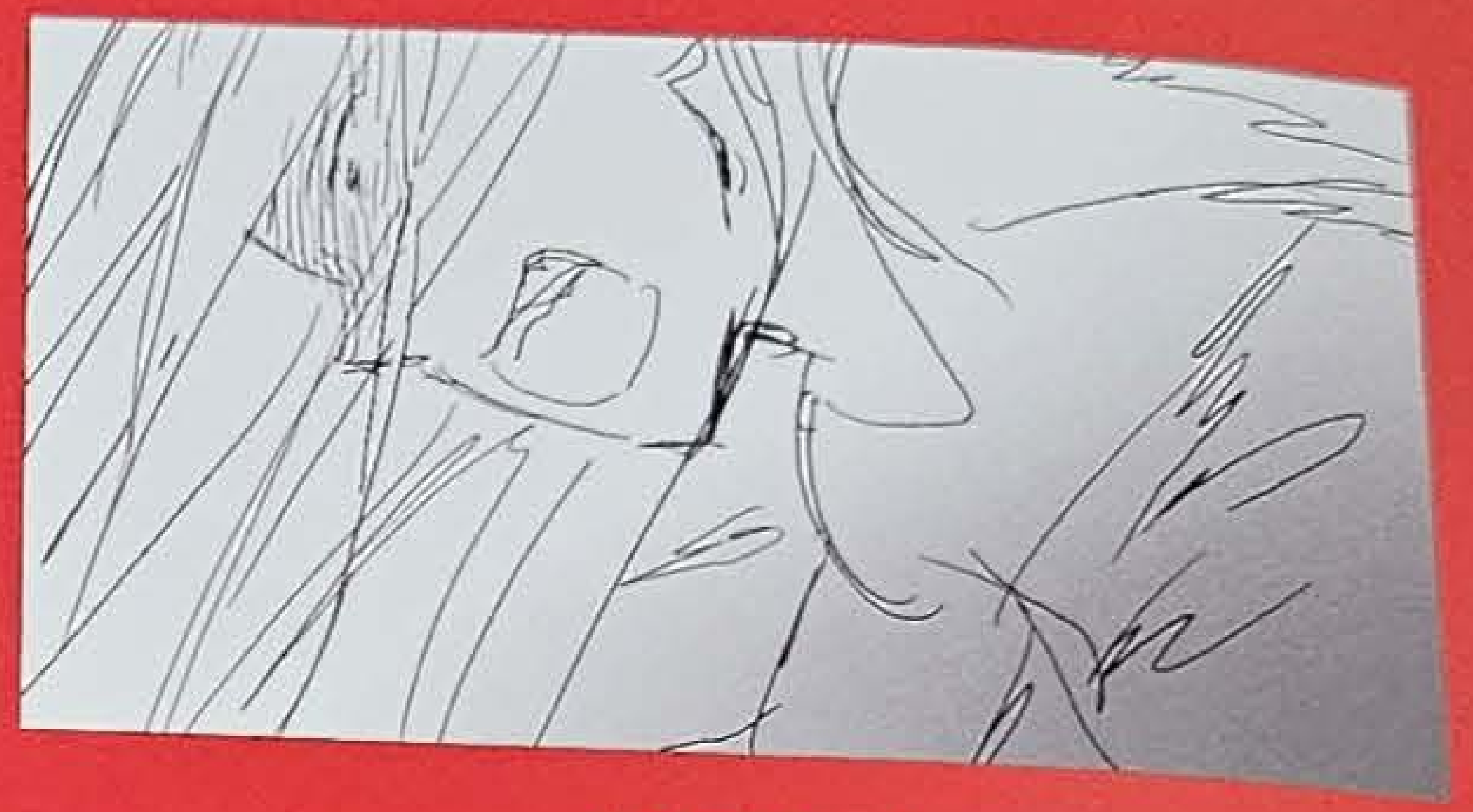
This scene depicts the inside of Mizi's mind as a movie theater. When Luka covers up the screen that was showing Sua, Mizi's gaze falls upon Luka without meaning to.

Luka covers the stage in purple, the color that symbolizes himself.
As befitting the title "Emperor of the Stage," all of the spotlights shine only upon him.
With his arms outstretched as he looks back at Mizi, it's as if he's telling Mizi to accept her death.

A final, cruel hallucination of Sua appears in front of Mizi, whose death is imminent.
Overwhelmed by traumatic loss and the fear of death, she loses her grip on her sanity.

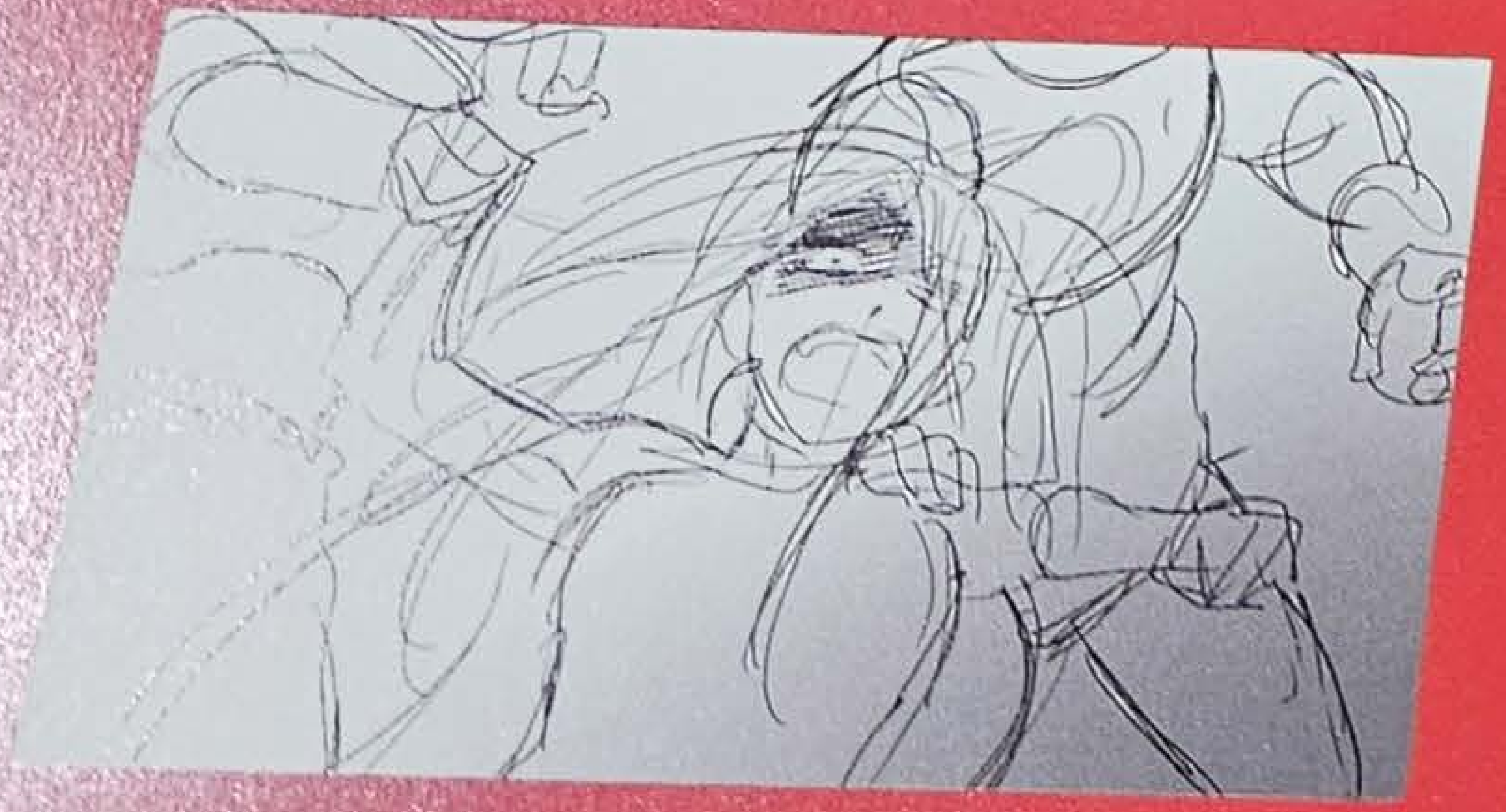




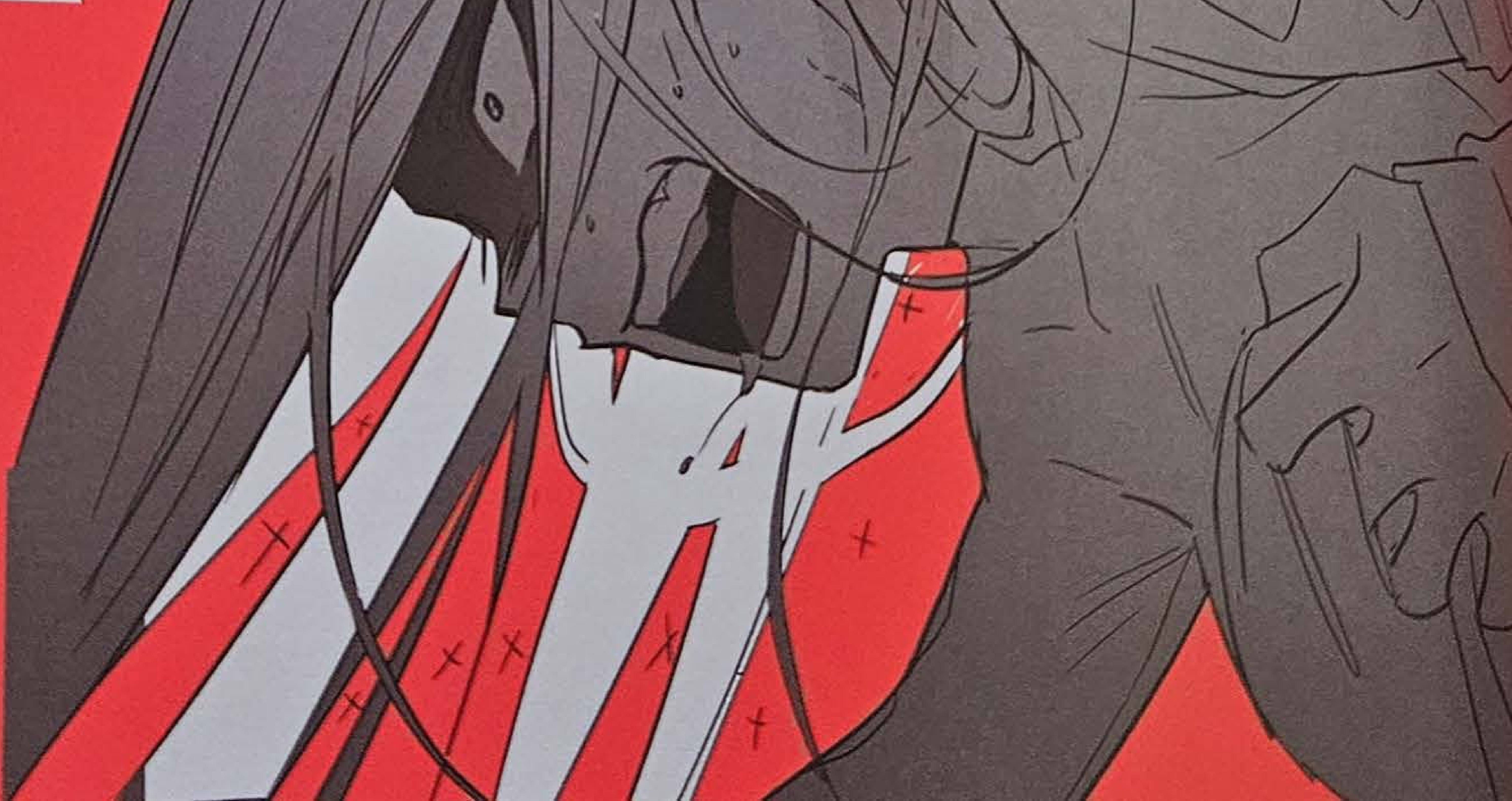


▲ **Storyboard**

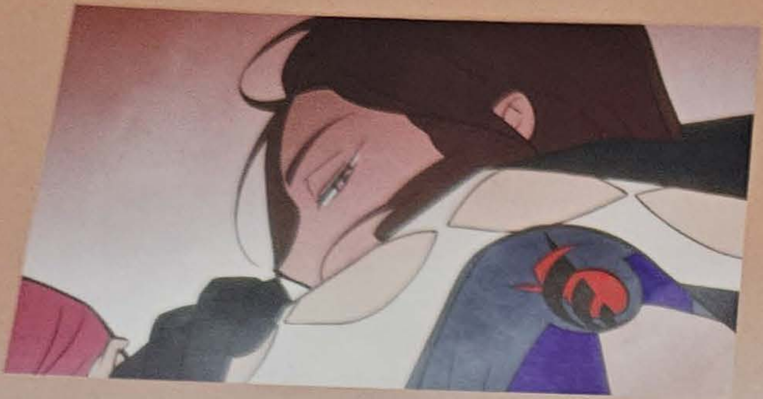
Mizi's bottled-up emotions finally explode, and her hidden violent side emerges. This outburst completely takes over, and she cannot stop herself from choking and punching Luka in an attempt to escape her situation. We wanted to depict her rage to look as wild as possible.



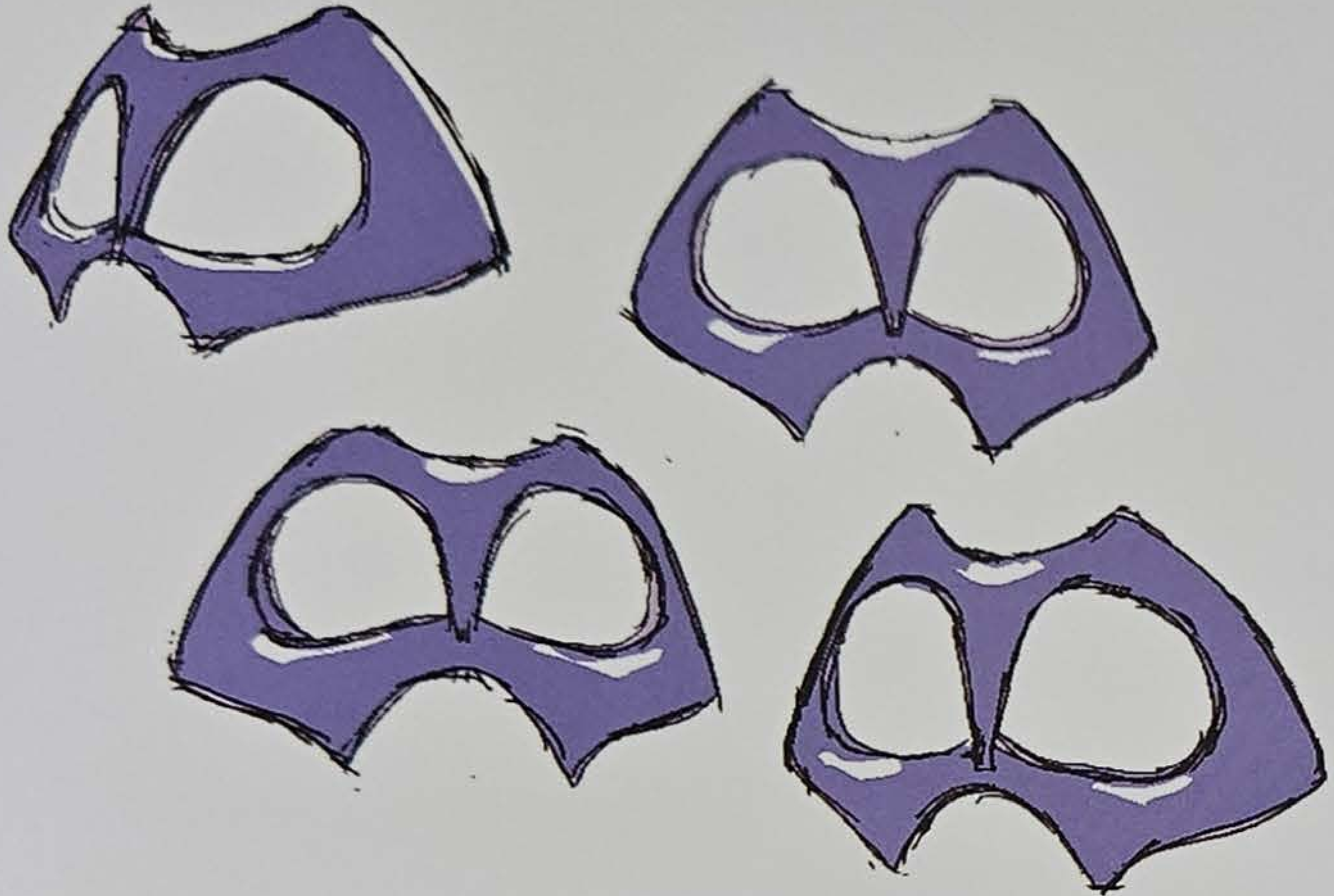
▲ **Storyboard**



Luka does not value his own body at all. Even as he lies there beaten and bruised, he knows that he has won and smiles. This smile is also him looking down on Mizi for being unable to control such a simple, primal emotion.



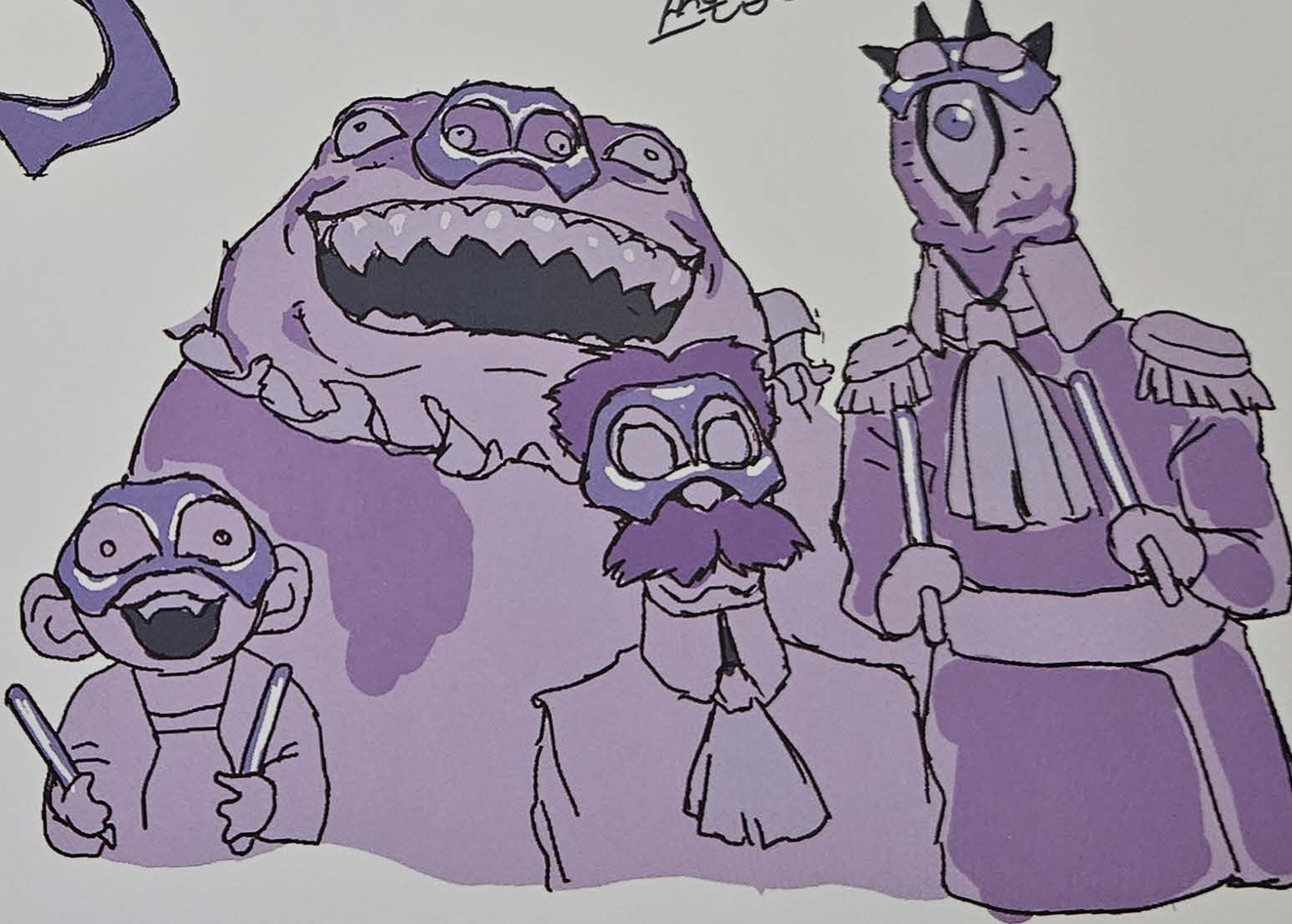
The scene where Luka and Hyuna reunite. Even though the two used to be inseparable, they have both become used to the other's absence.

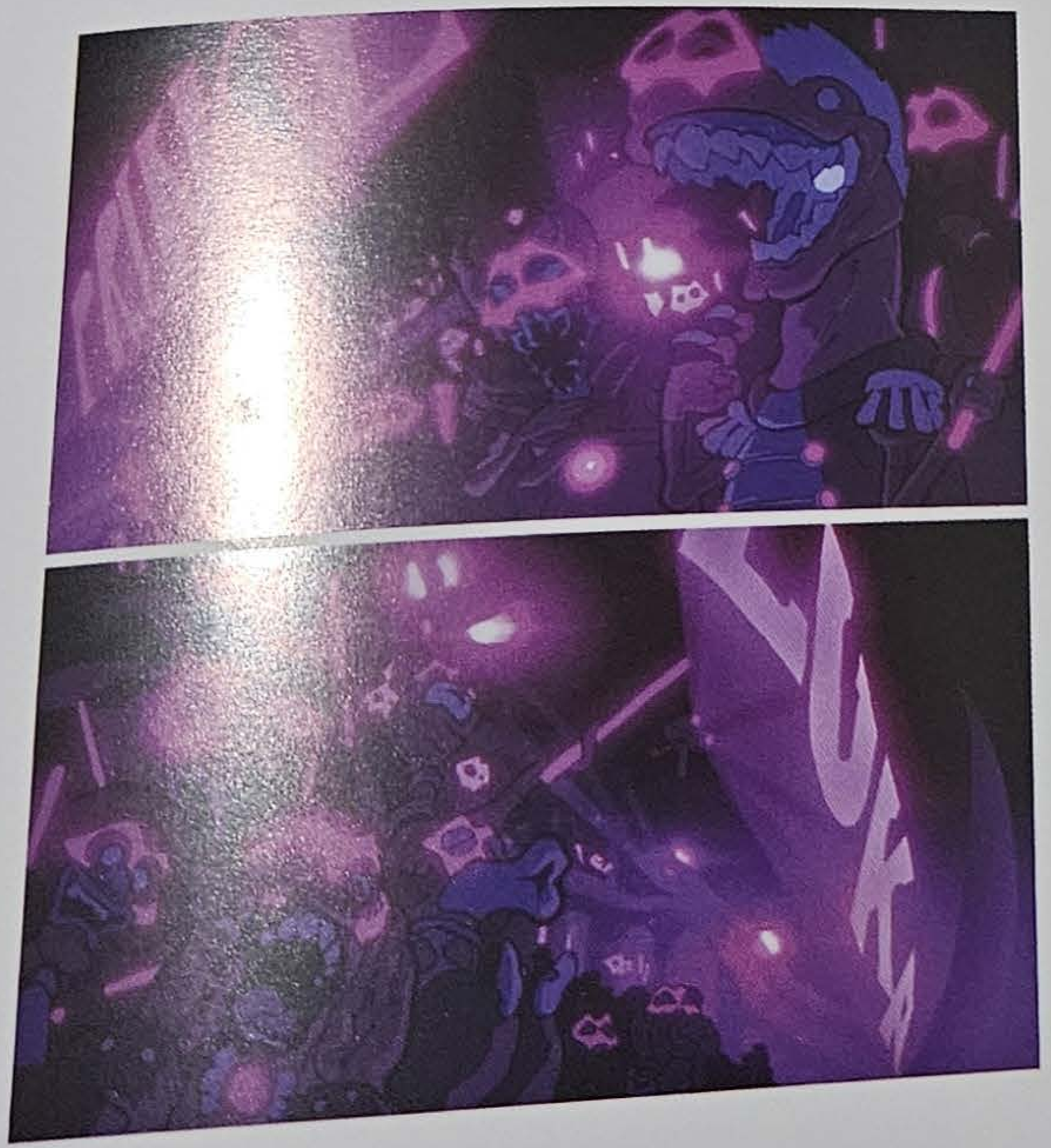


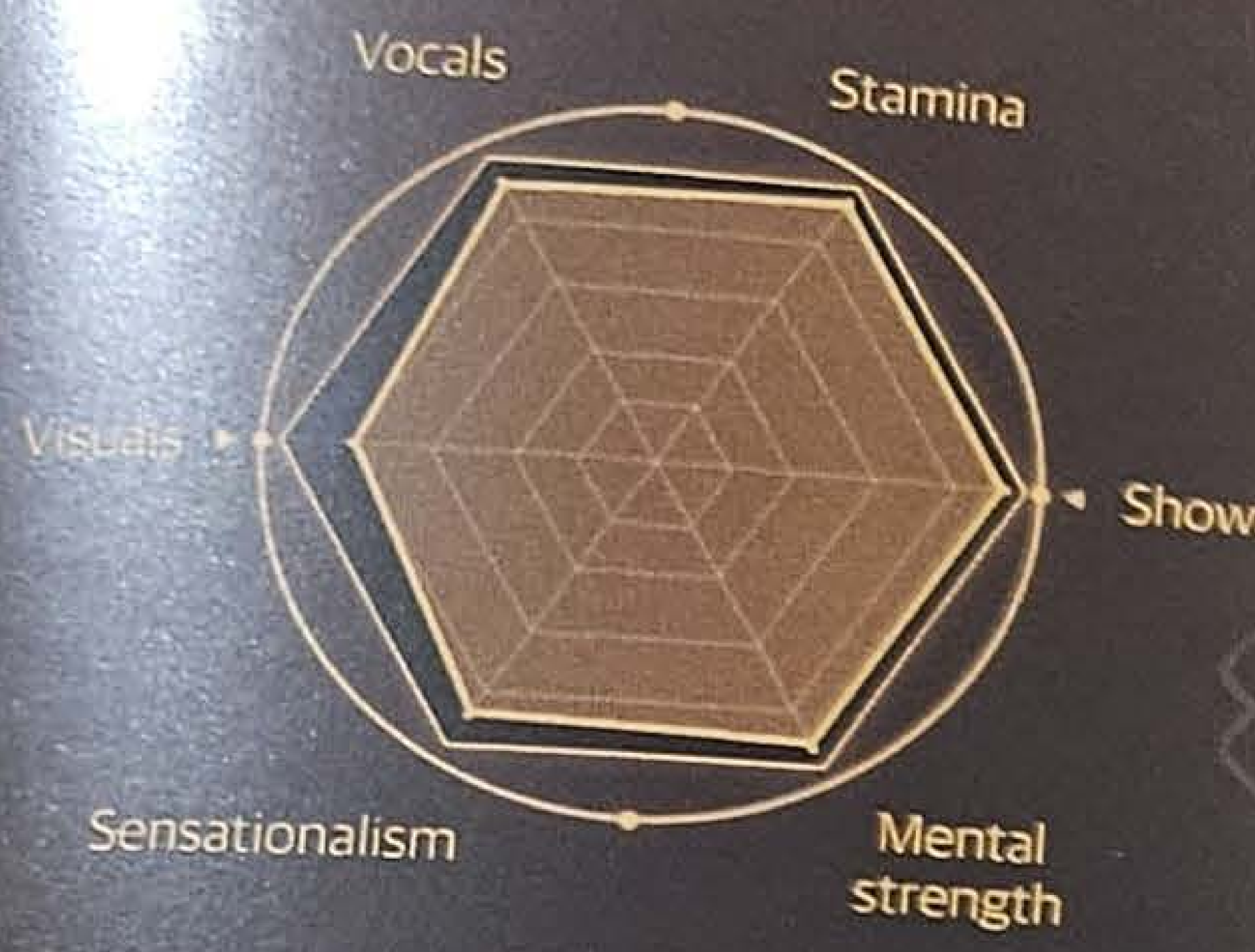
✧ The "Violet Mask" that comes included in the Official Luka Fanclub kit is what fills the auditorium with that purple color, representing Luka. When worn, the mask automatically conforms to fit the wearer's face!

There are many ways to wear it.

쓰는법도 여러가지.







CHARACTER COMMENT

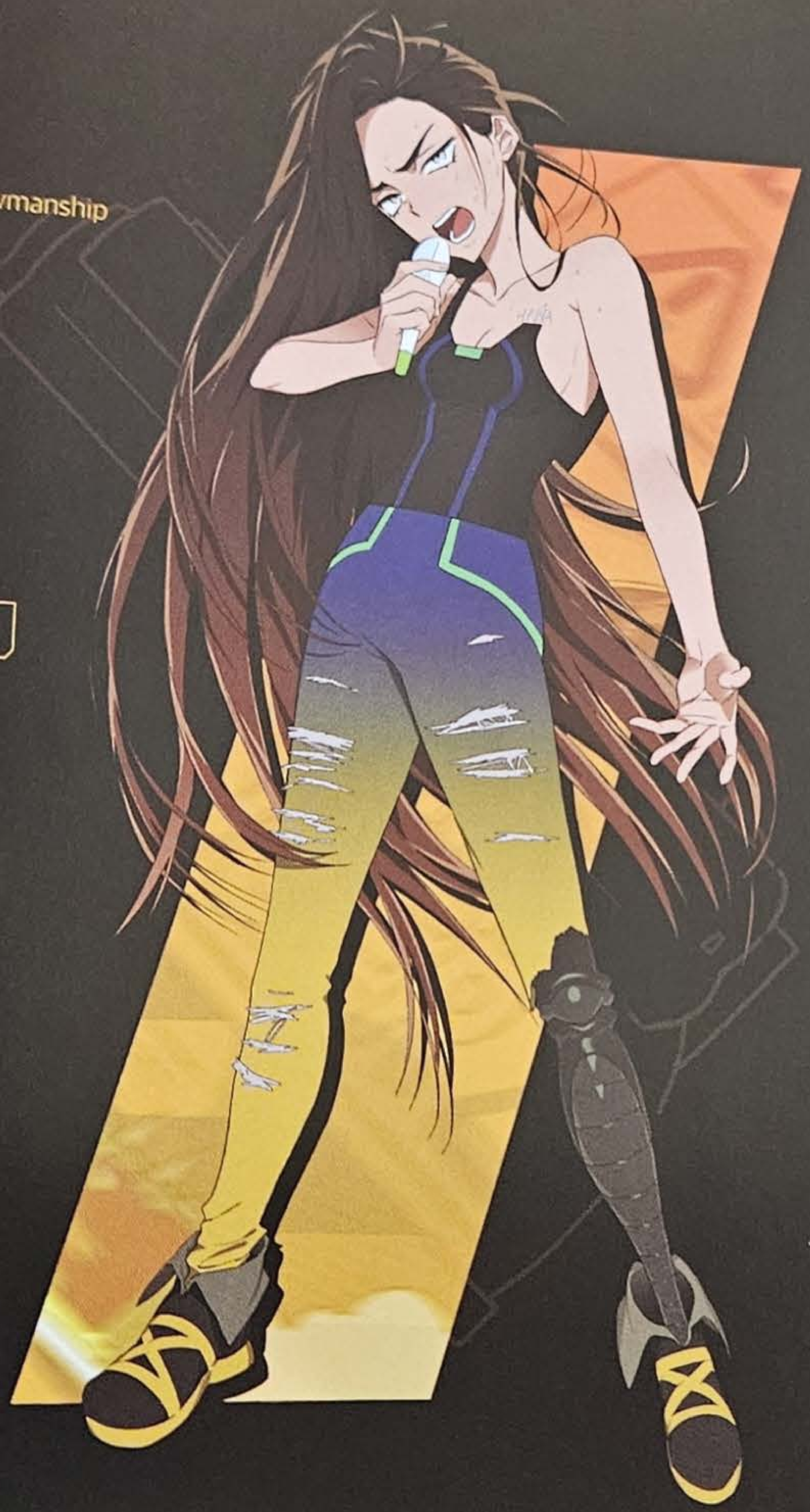
#Playful #FreeRein #ESTP

#LookingCoolInLifeAndDeath

PRO FILE

Birthday	0905
Born	Family Distribution
Age	27
Height/Weight	5'9" / 148lbs
Blood Type	RH+A
ID Number	020126
Affiliation	Human Rebellion
Owner	Phan
Likes	Cigarettes and Alcohol
Dislikes	Unknown
Talent	Voice Impressions
MBTI	ESTP

A charismatic vocalist who has a powerful voice and equally powerful stage presence. If she stayed in Alien Stage, she may have been the only one who could rival Luka...



Human Relationships

Hyun Woo	My one and only gem. Do I miss him? Why bother asking something so obvious? But oh well, he's not here anymore so what can you do.
Mizi	She's a funny girl. Even when she's just sitting there, she immediately runs away if you mess with her even a little bit. The way she looks as if she lost everything in the world annoys me, but it also makes me empathize with her... I was like that once.
Luka	I should never have gotten close to him and treated him kindly... Shall we talk about something else?
Dewey	Doesn't he have a killer bod? Not everyone can have muscles like that. He may seem like an idiot, but he can be incredibly sharp at times. But that's very rare. I've learned a lot from that guy. Like how to drink 'til I pass out or how to run away!
Issac	He's a straight-laced guy from the streets and a gifted tactician. He's smart, but he can be pretty inflexible. I guess it's fine since there are plenty of people around him who aren't like him at all?

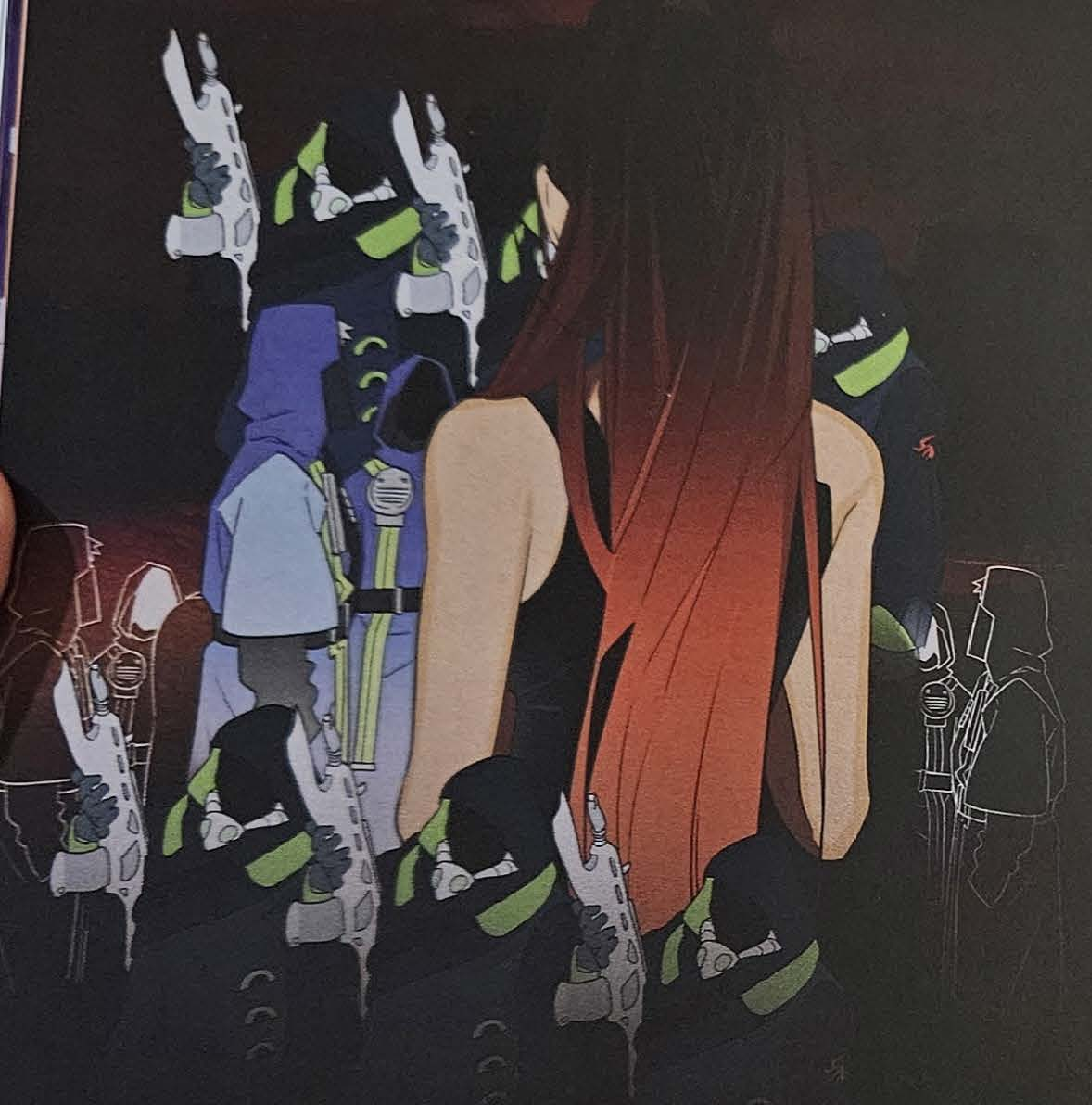
Personality

Easygoing, Cool

As a way to retain her sanity under Segyein persecution, she chose to live her life as an easygoing person. No one but her closest friends would ever catch a glimpse of the darkness inside her, and even Hyuna herself may be fooled by her own relaxed persona. She believes that if she keeps smiling no matter what happens, all the pain inside her will fade away. Every day she grows up, little by little.

Leader

A natural-born leader who guides others with smooth charisma and understanding. She has always been at the forefront of large groups, and people always gathered around her. Despite this, she stayed humble through it all, continuing to fraternize with her peers and giving them her affection. Even when she is betrayed or her heart is shaken, she still chooses to love despite everything.

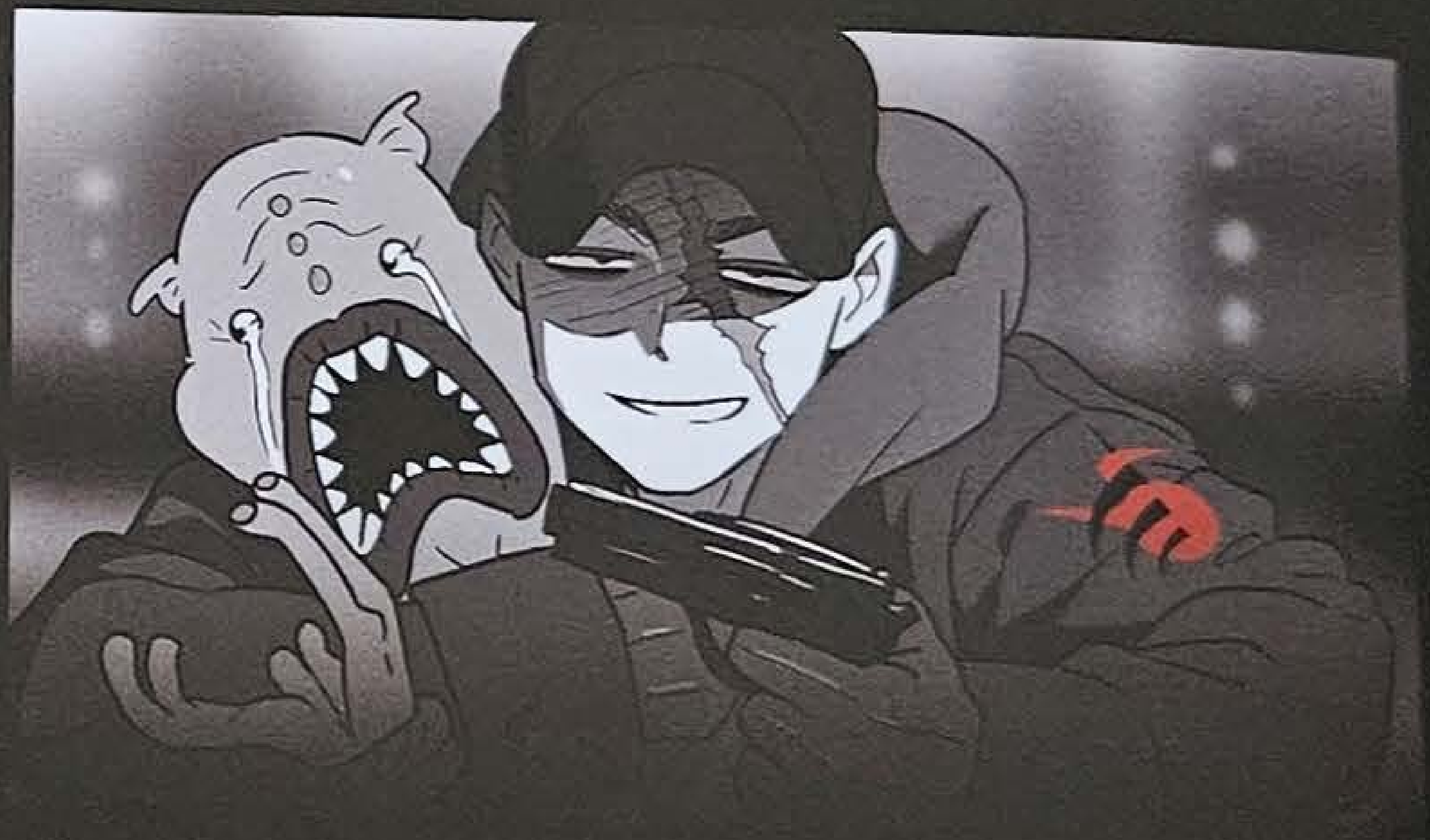


Human Rebellion

A group that focuses on making life harder for the Segyein. It has grown large enough to become a sharp thorn in their sides. Although the rebels were initially ignored, their influence and power grew to the point of becoming dangerous for the Segyein. It may seem like a pointless effort, but the rebels have chosen "freedom" and continue their opposition.

Accomplishments

Although there have been cases of pet humans committing crimes in the past, the rebels were the first case of humans forming an organization. Their shrewd criminal actions and ability to evade capture has caused them to become an object of fear. Most of the members are abandoned street humans, so Hyuna, who was from Anakt Garden, is a special case.



List of Crimes

1. Terrorism at Human multi-shops and kidnapping pet humans.
2. Terrorism at multiple Segyein weapon facilities: Stole 14% of the stock of lethal weapons.
3. Infiltration and terrorism during a performance in Alien Stage season 50.

First Impressions

Mizi → Hyuna

For Mizi, who has only ever seen Segyein-run establishments such as Anakt Garden and Alien Stage, an environment devoid of any Segyein was a new experience. Switching from the society that she was used to into something completely different with the rebels was difficult for her. Hyuna was the first human Mizi ever encountered who wasn't a Segyein's pet, and meeting Hyuna and the other rebels was life-changing.

Hyuna → Mizi

Hyuna believes that everyone has a selfish side to them, no matter how kind they seem. By saving Mizi, Hyuna wanted to reconcile with the fact that she lost someone precious to her and help ease the pain of her past self. On the surface, it may seem like saving Mizi was an act of heroism, but in reality it was nothing more than Hyuna's selfish wish that caused the rebels to save Mizi.

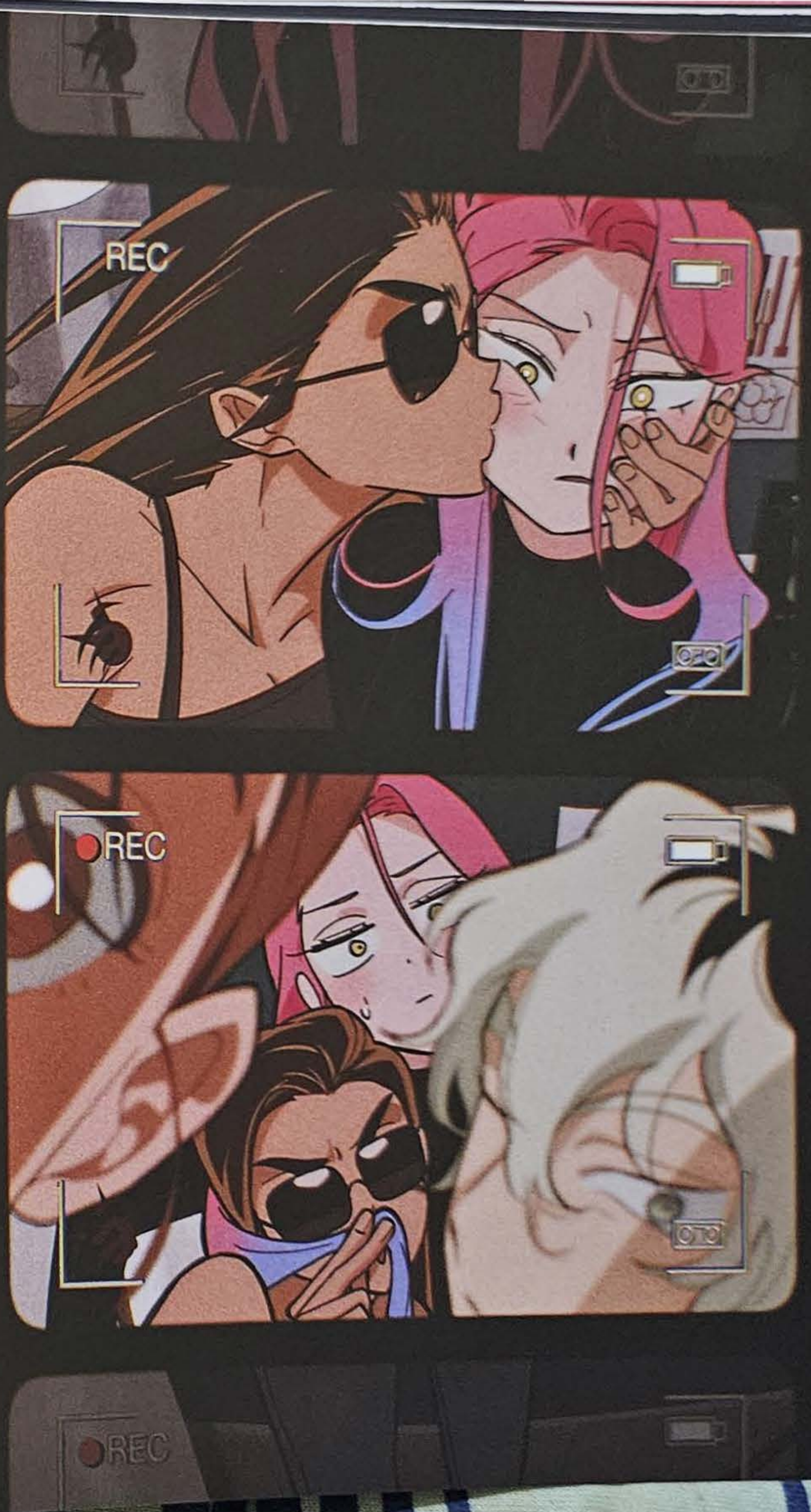
Current Impressions

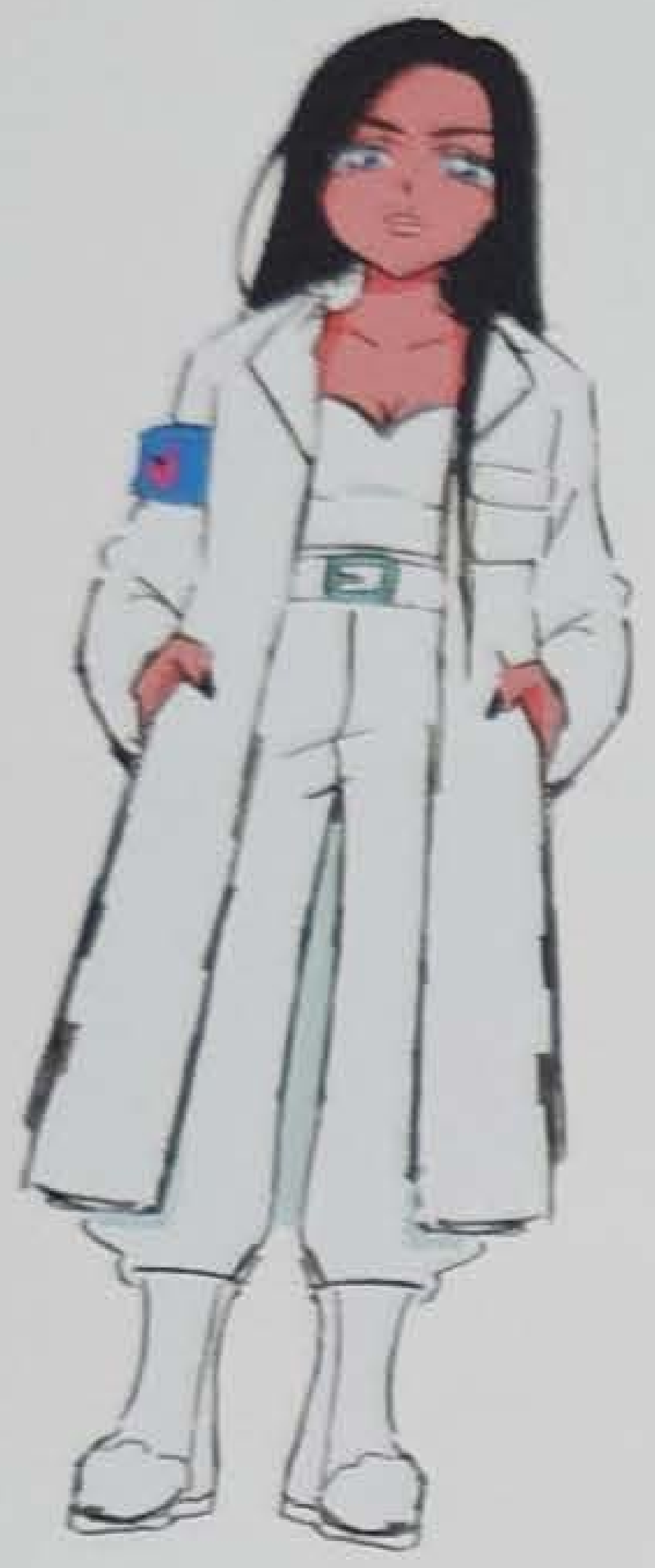
Mizi → Hyuna

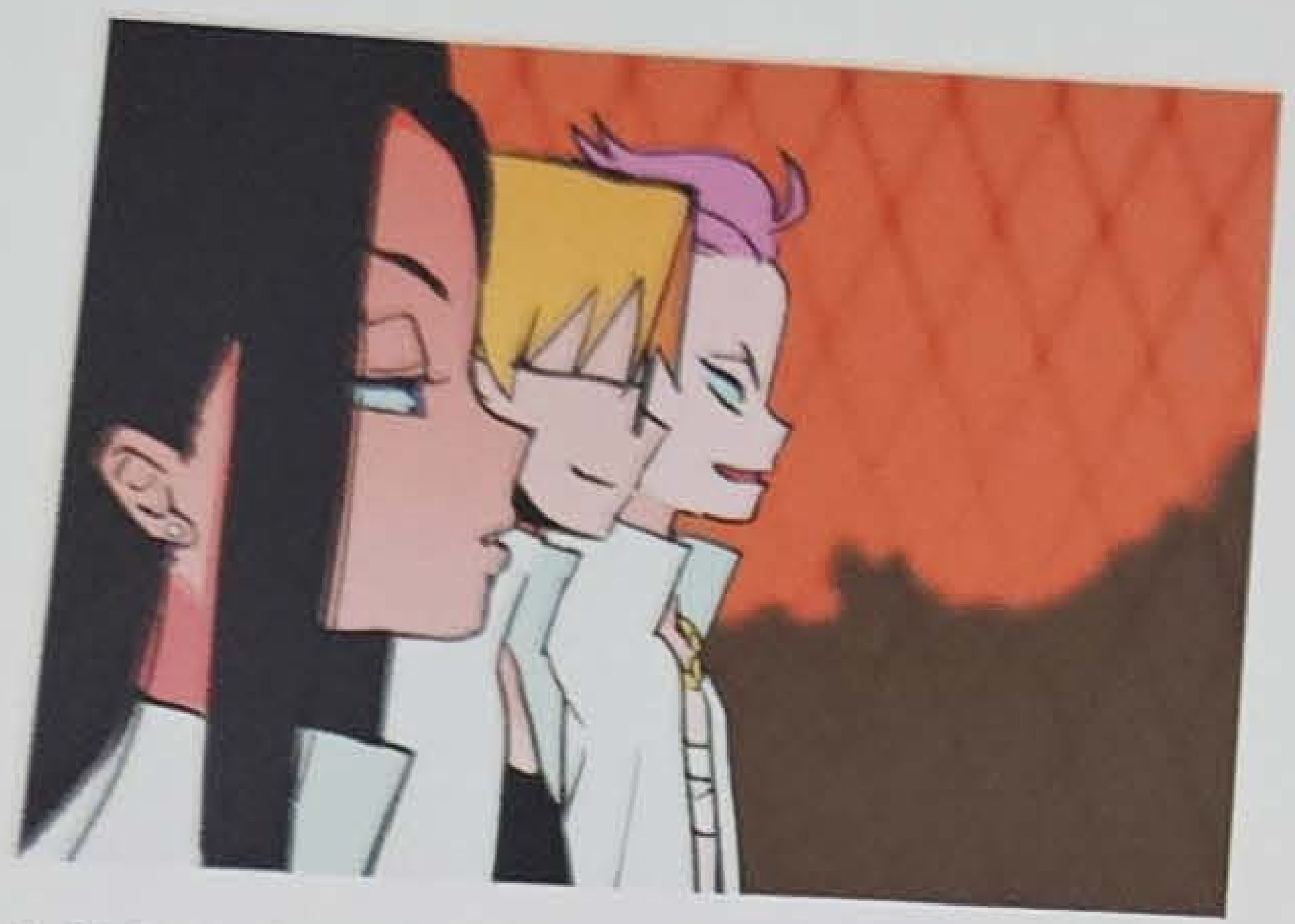
Currently, Hyuna is the person Mizi relies on the most. Mizi has been reintegrating into society after meeting the rebels, but Hyuna is still the only person she feels understands her as someone who is also from Anakt Garden. Mizi must relate to a lot of what Hyuna has to say about her past.

Hyuna → Mizi

Everyone has a selfish side to them, even Hyuna. Subconsciously, saving Mizi was just a way for Hyuna to fulfill her selfish desire of reconciling with losing someone precious to her, and easing her past self's pain. Her seemingly heroic image and her caring for Mizi like a younger sister stems from selfish roots.



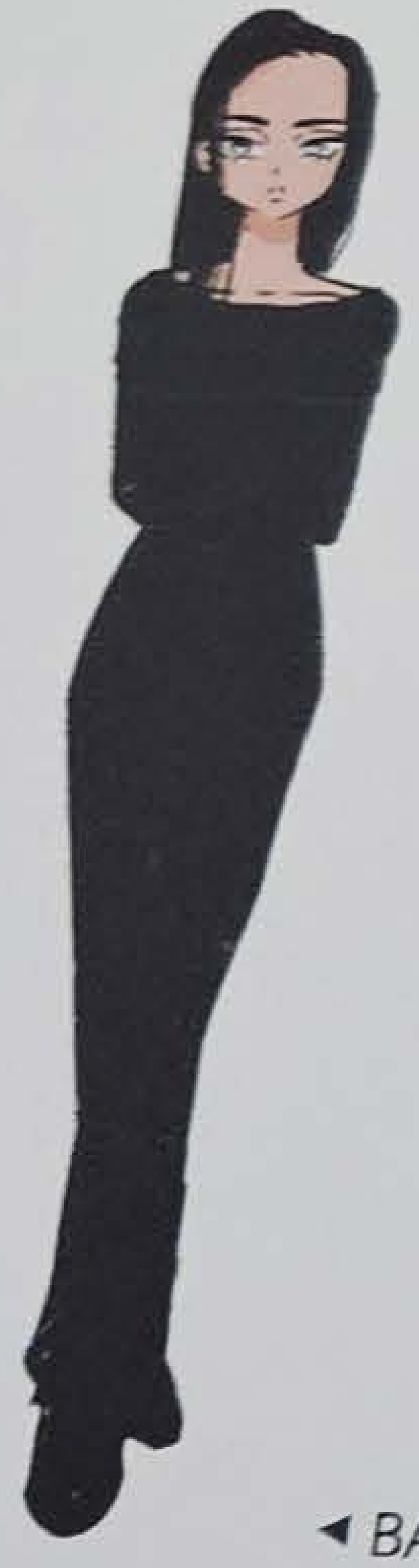




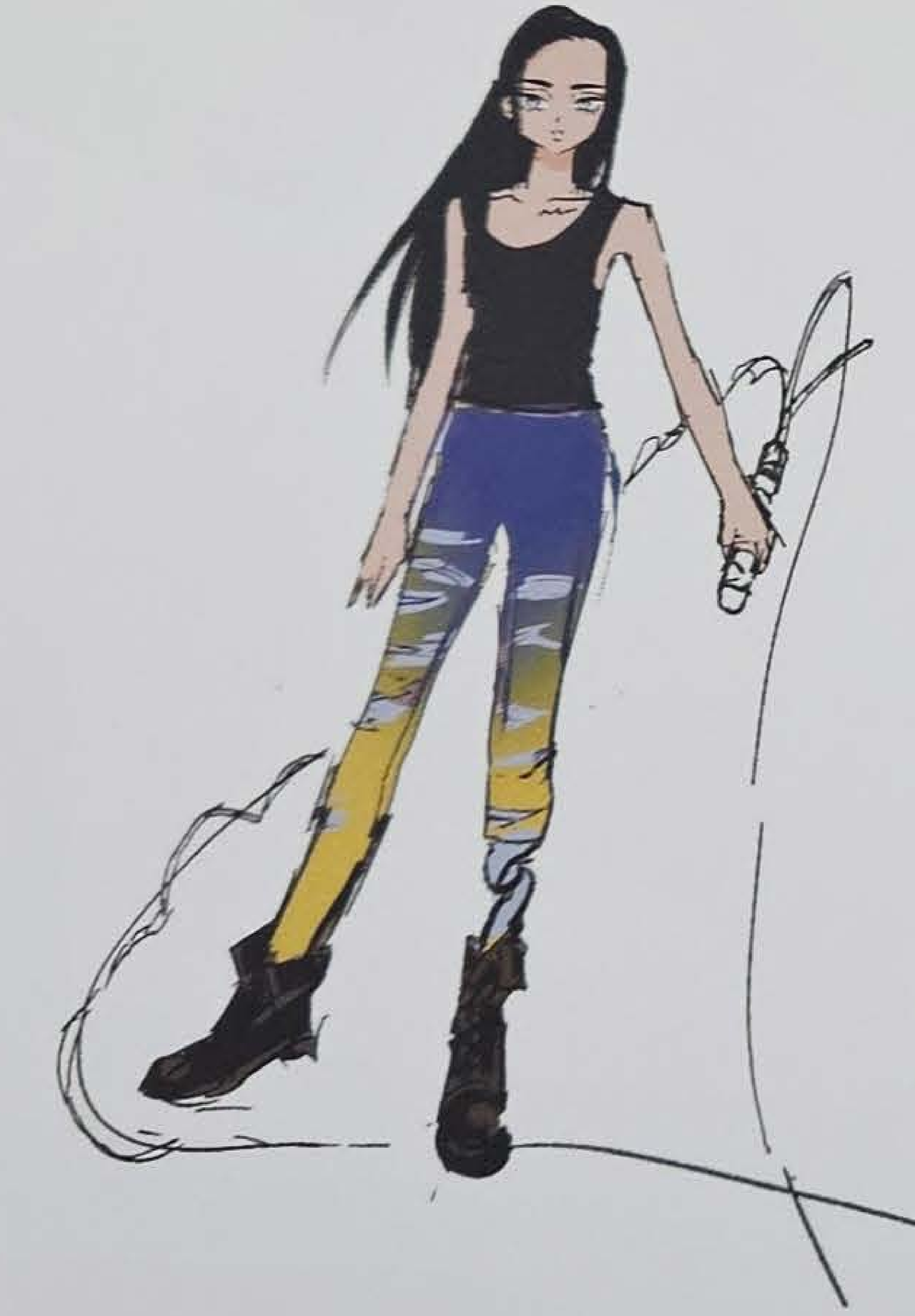
◆ At first, she was based on one of the antagonists from a previous work.

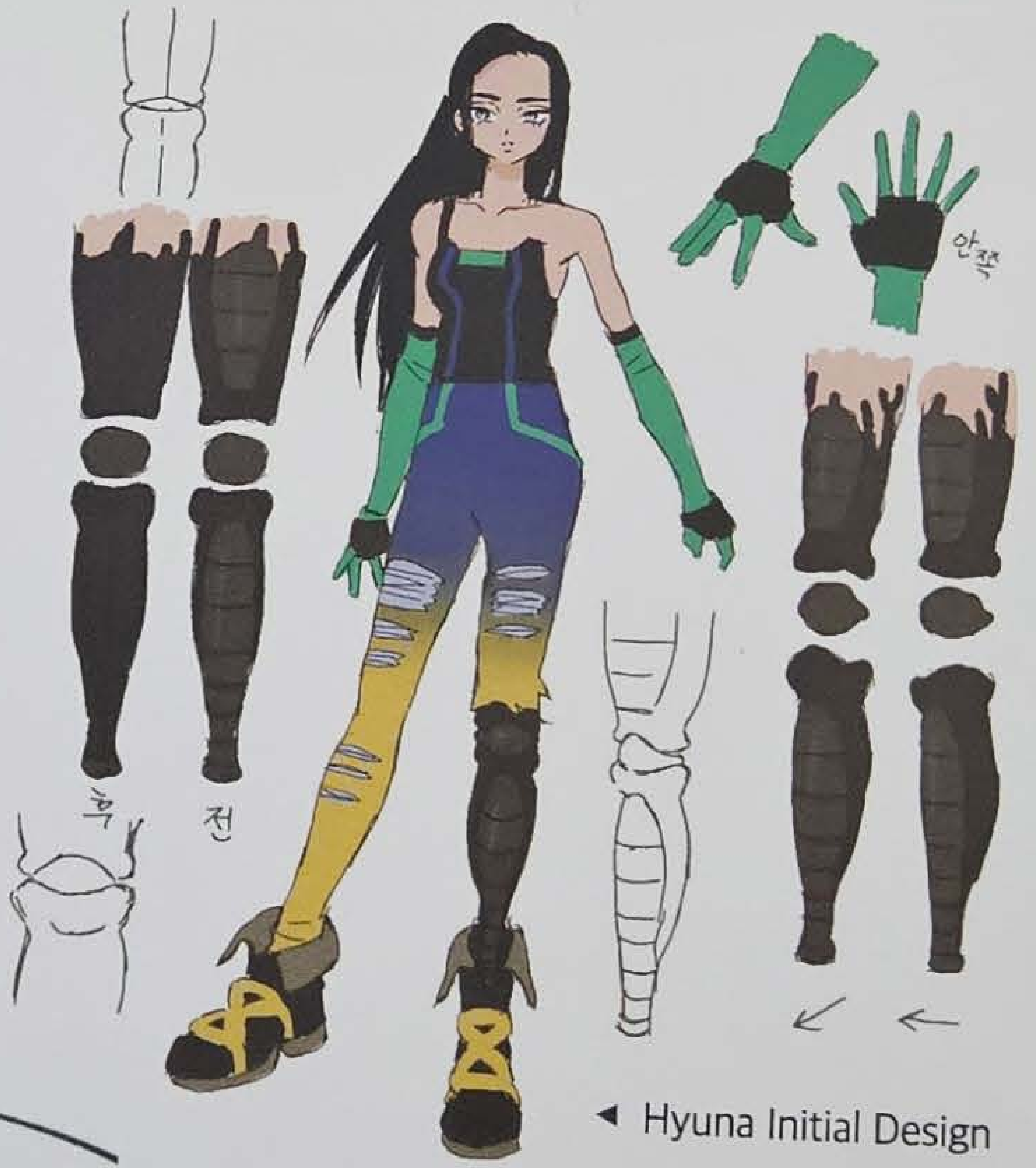
Initial Concept

Hyuna is a quiet, stoic character with a husky voice ideal for rock songs. She is the only person to survive losing in Alien Stage, and she wears a prosthetic after her leg was bitten off by an alien. She entered Alien Stage on the condition that if she won, her owner would no longer abuse her younger sister. She ended up losing, and her sister was killed. Hyuna took good care of Mizi because the way in which Mizi lost all hope after losing Sua reminded her of herself.

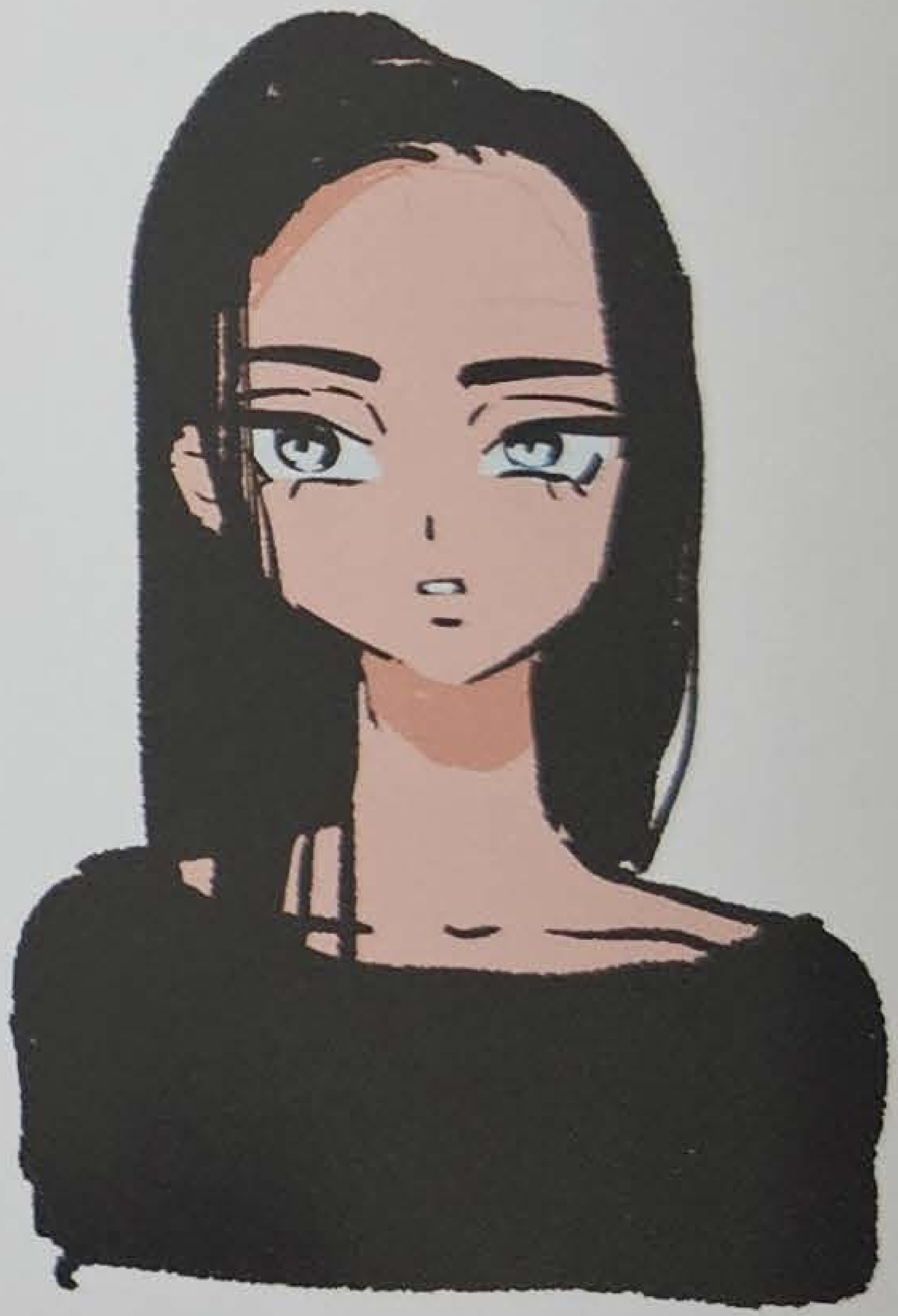


◄ BASE

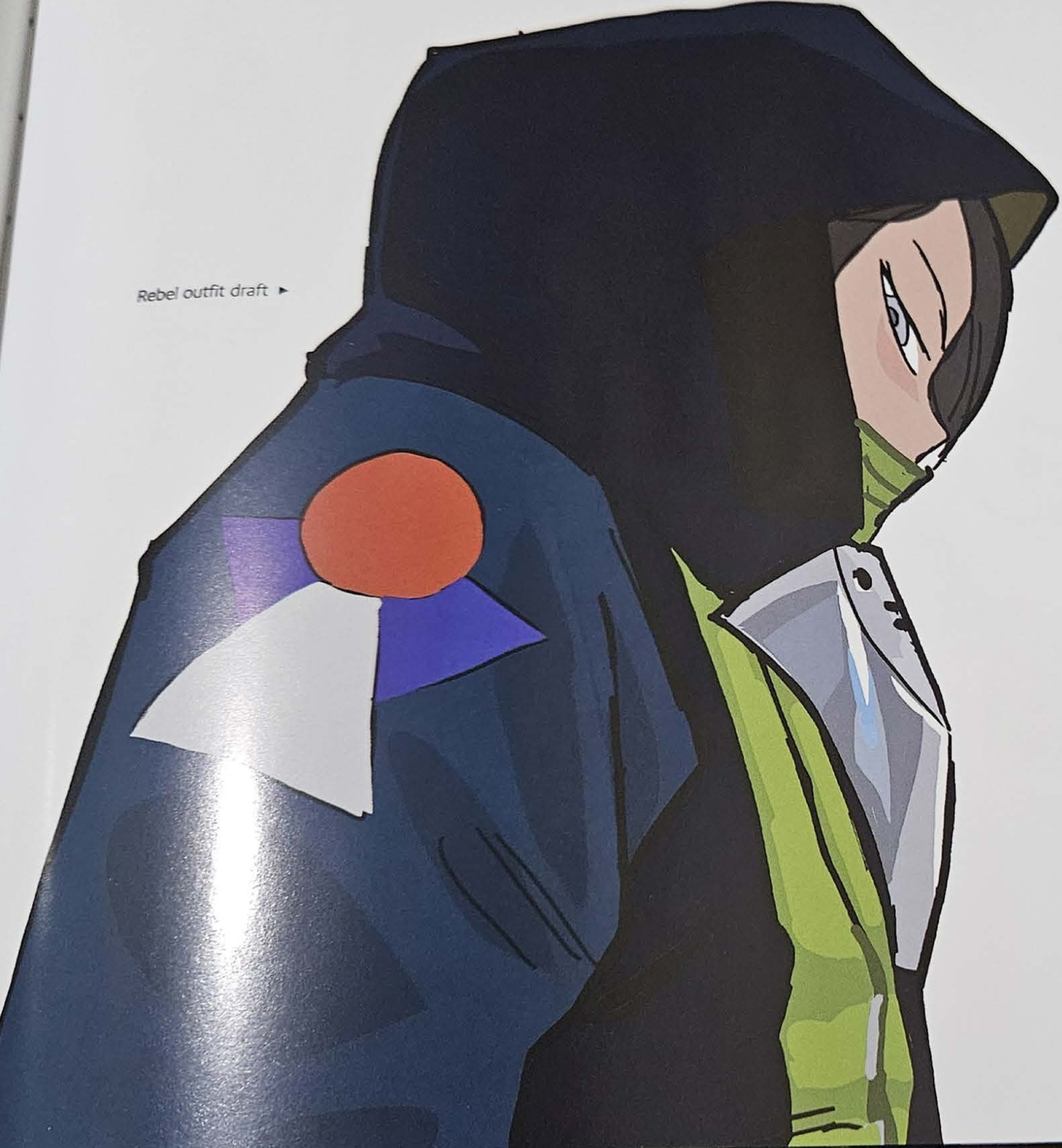


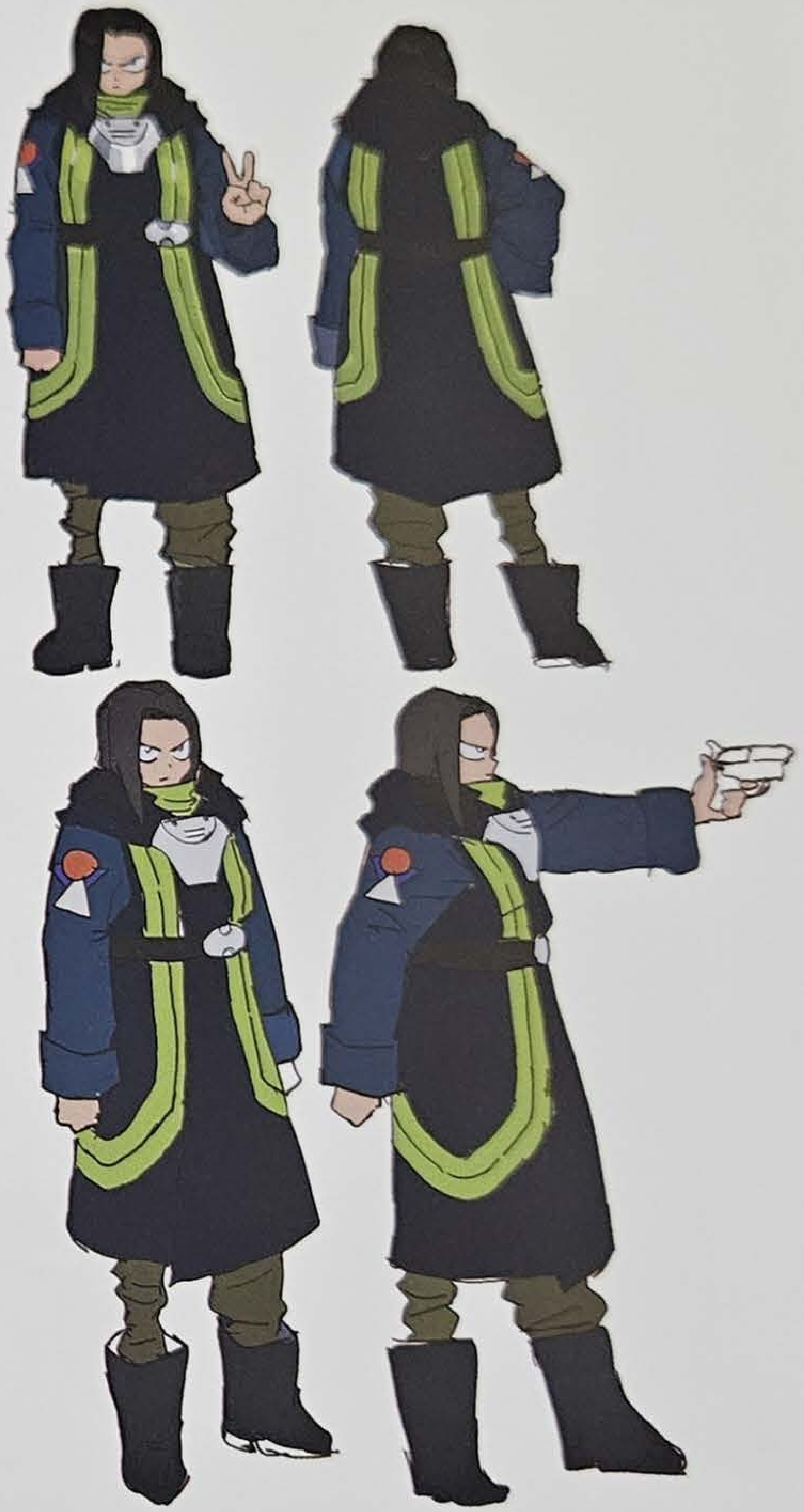


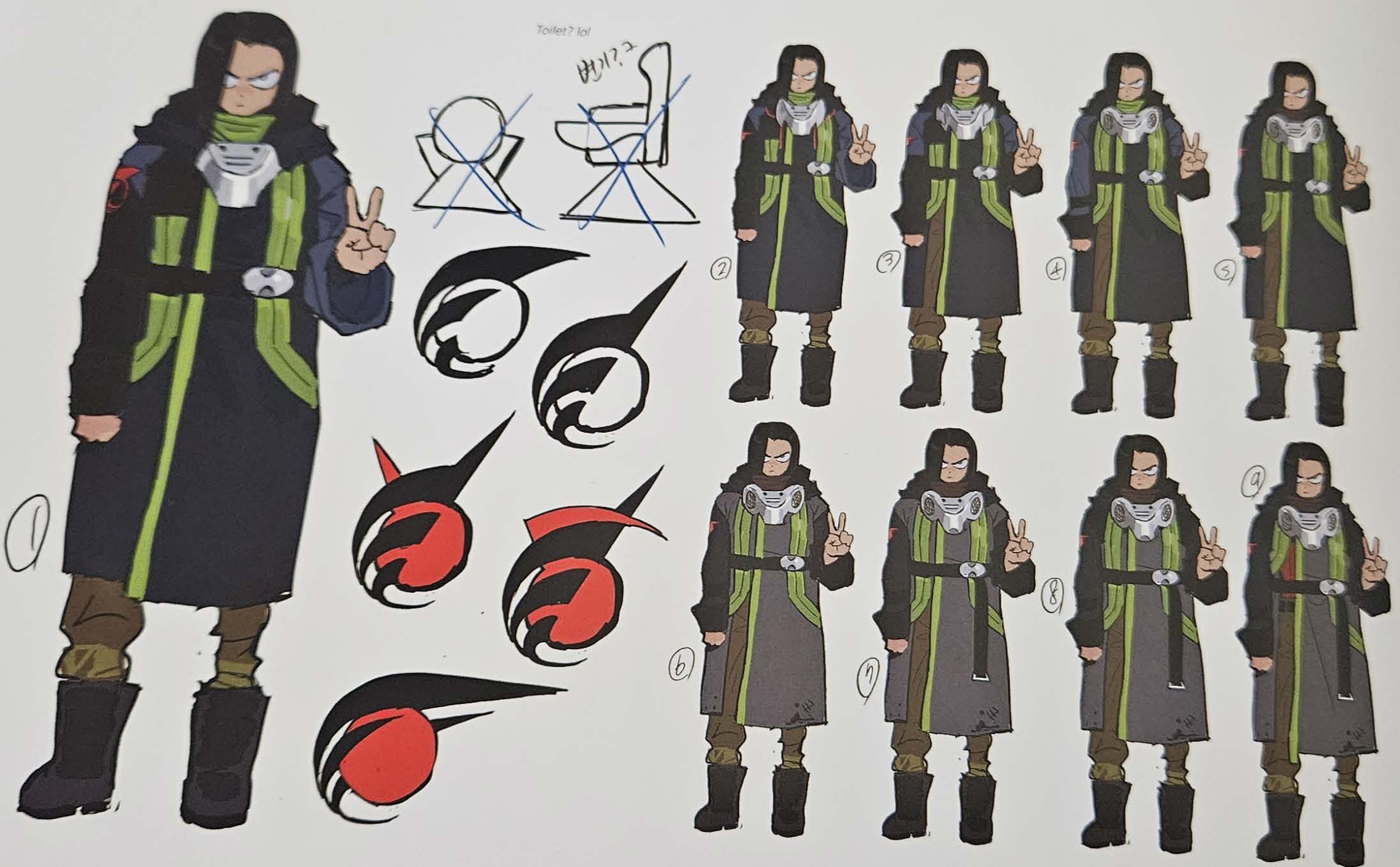
◄ Hyuna Initial Design

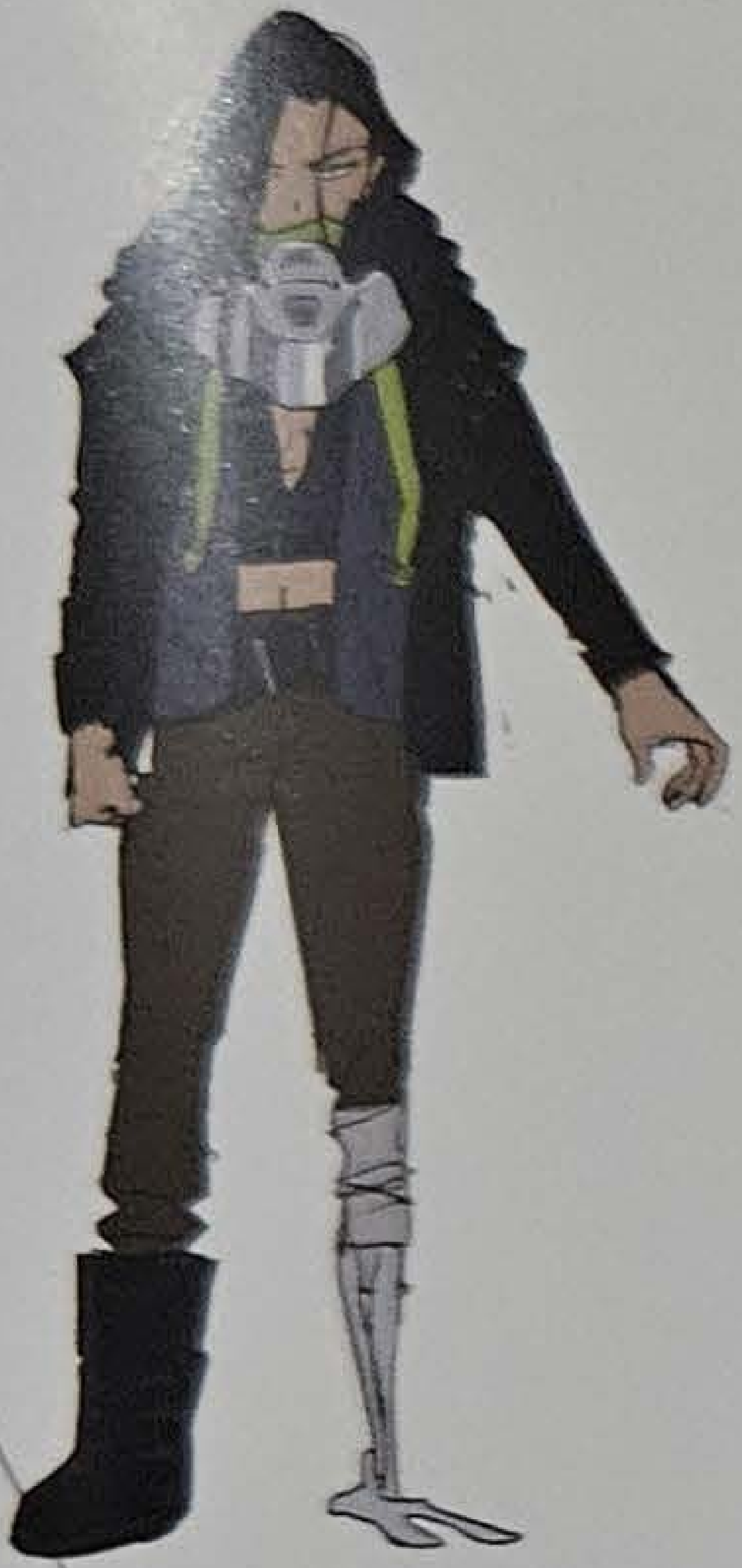


Rebel outfit draft ►



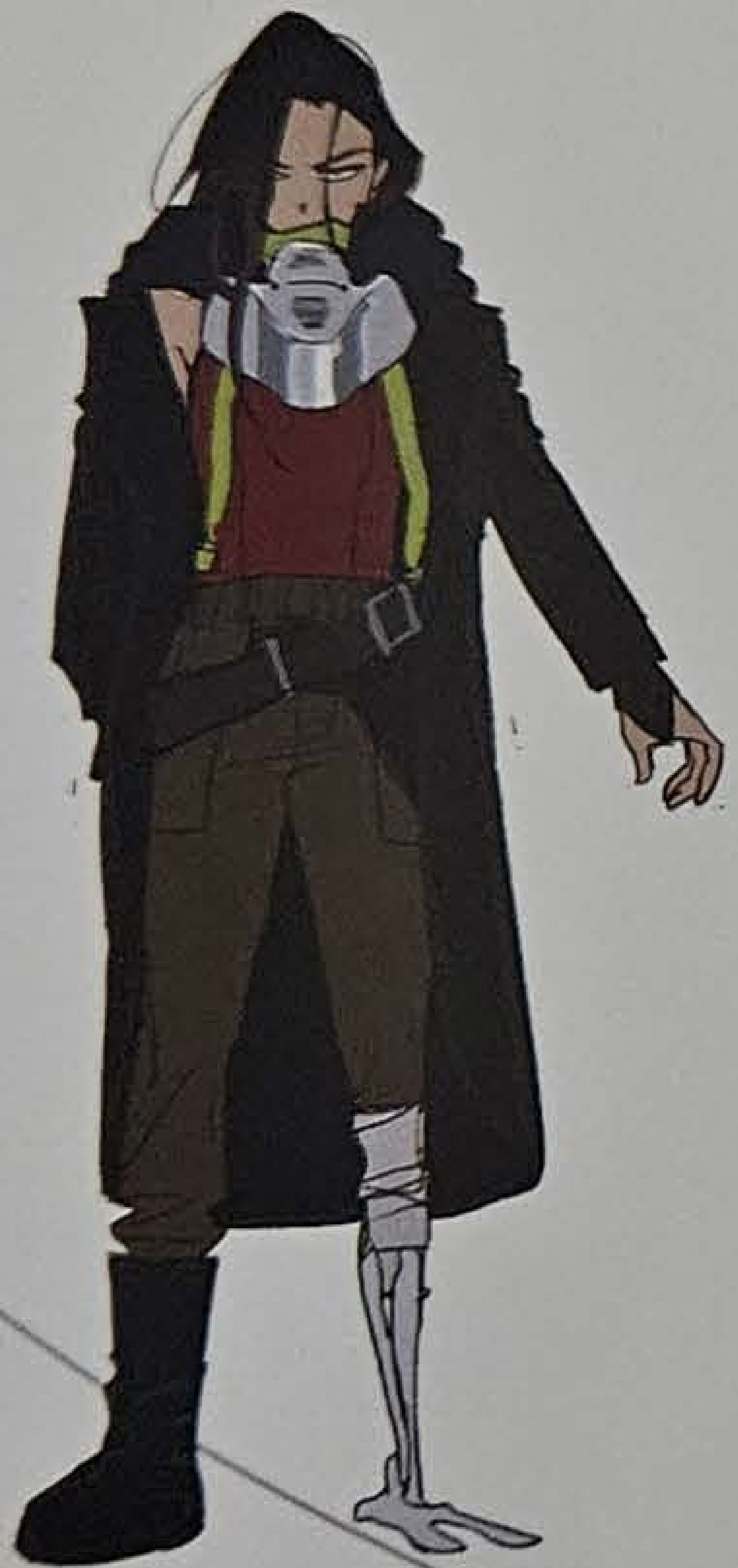


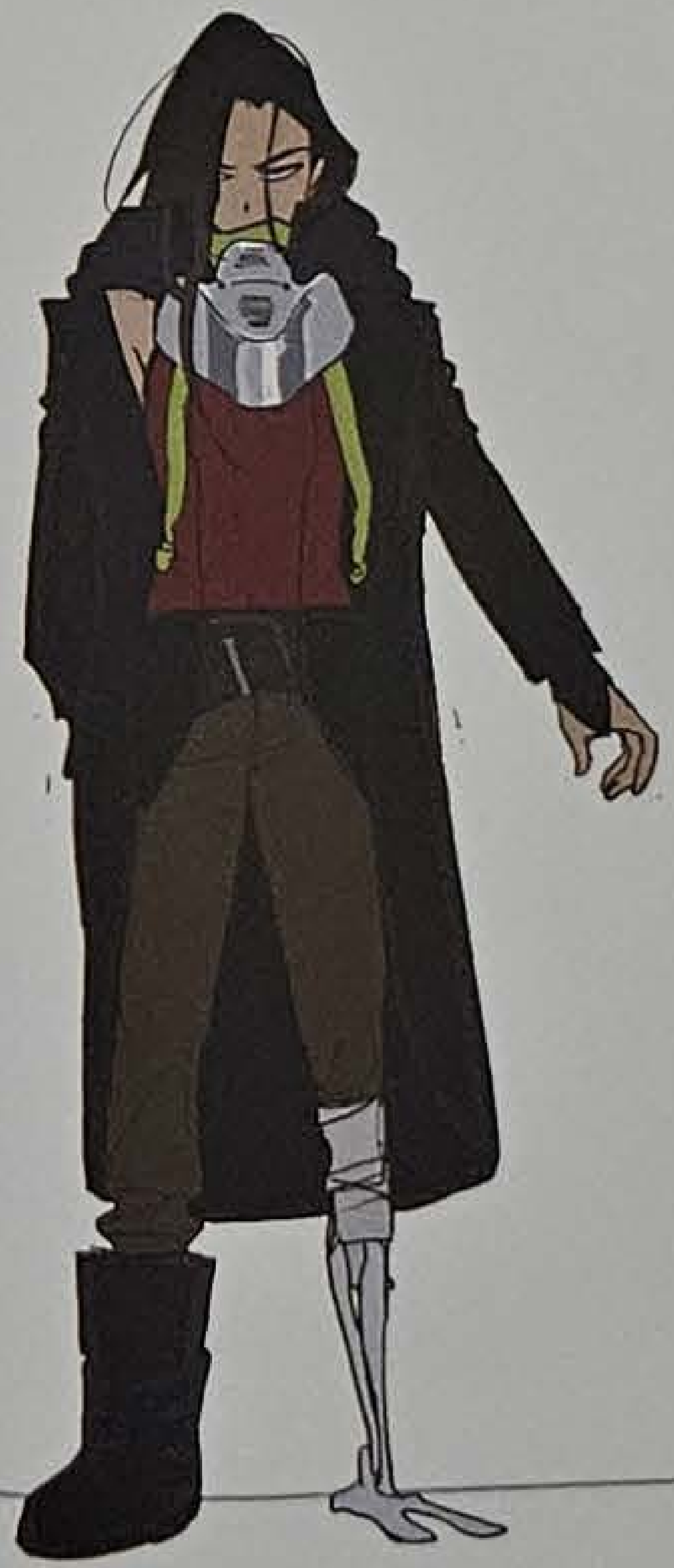

①
Toilet? lol
변기?ㅋ
②
③
④
⑤
⑥
⑦
⑧
⑨

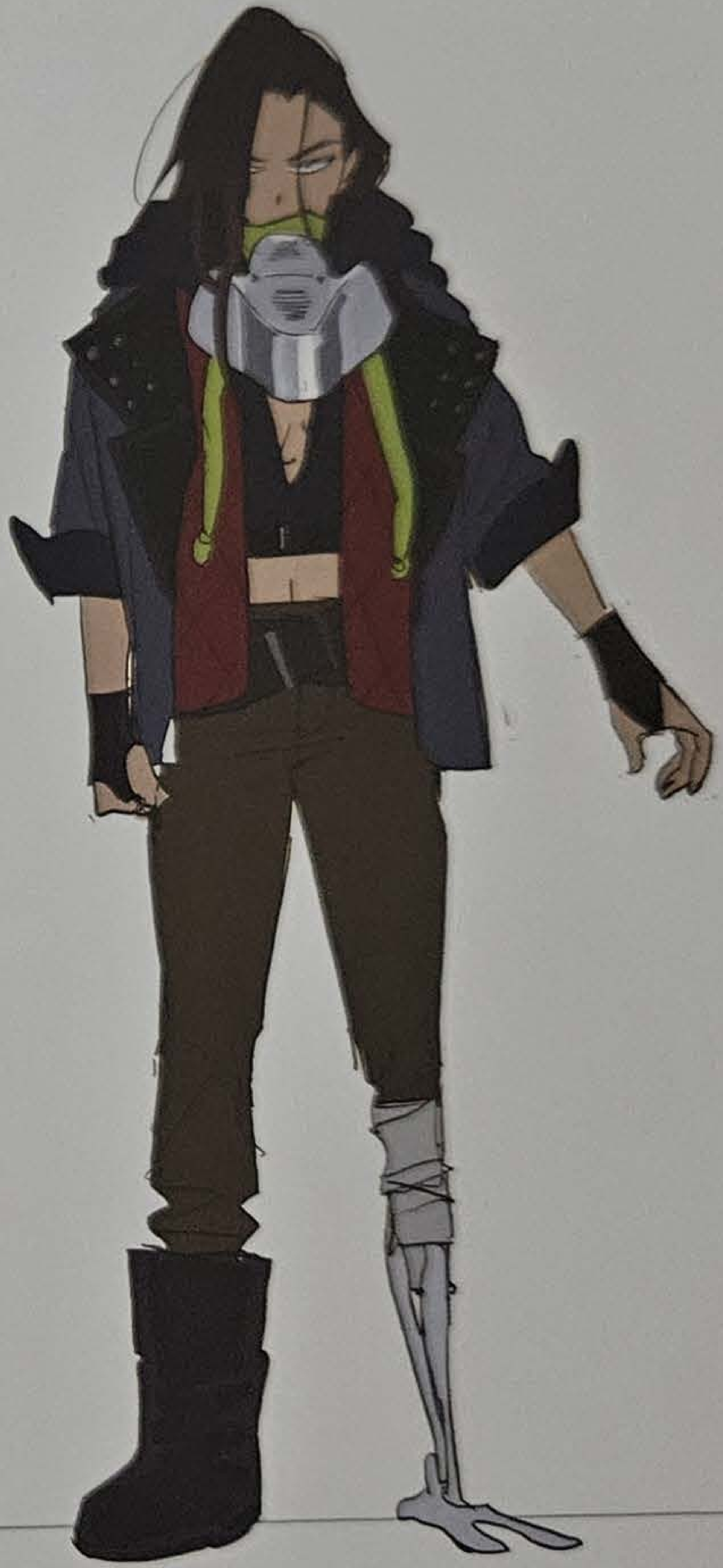


Early Concept

2nd draft drawn by Co-Director QMENG without changing the first draft's concept. She gave off playful and childish vibes which overlapped with Till, so this draft was rejected.

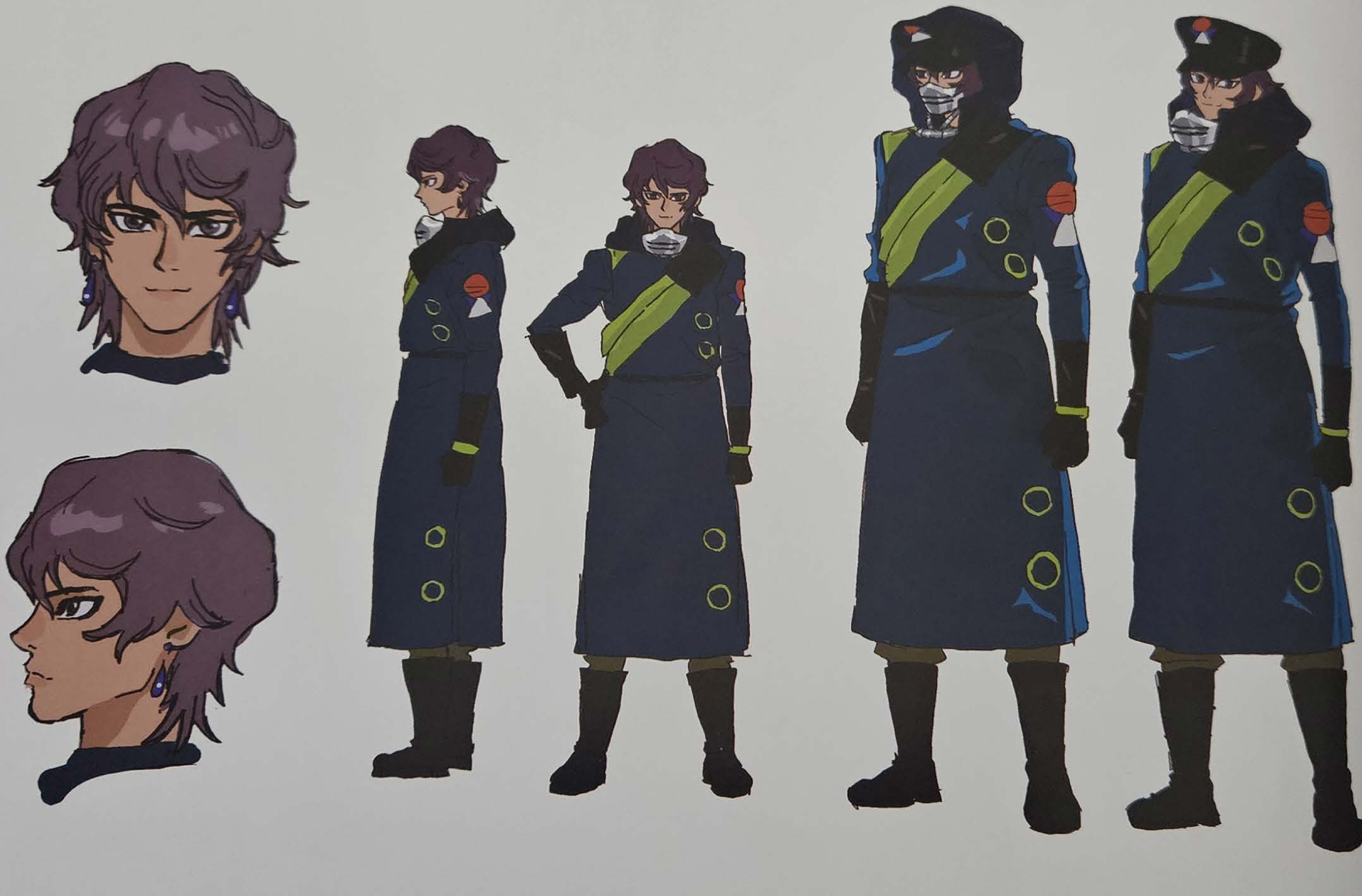






Human Rebellion Captain Initial Design

A side character who was a captain in the Human Rebellion. When the plot changed, this character was removed.

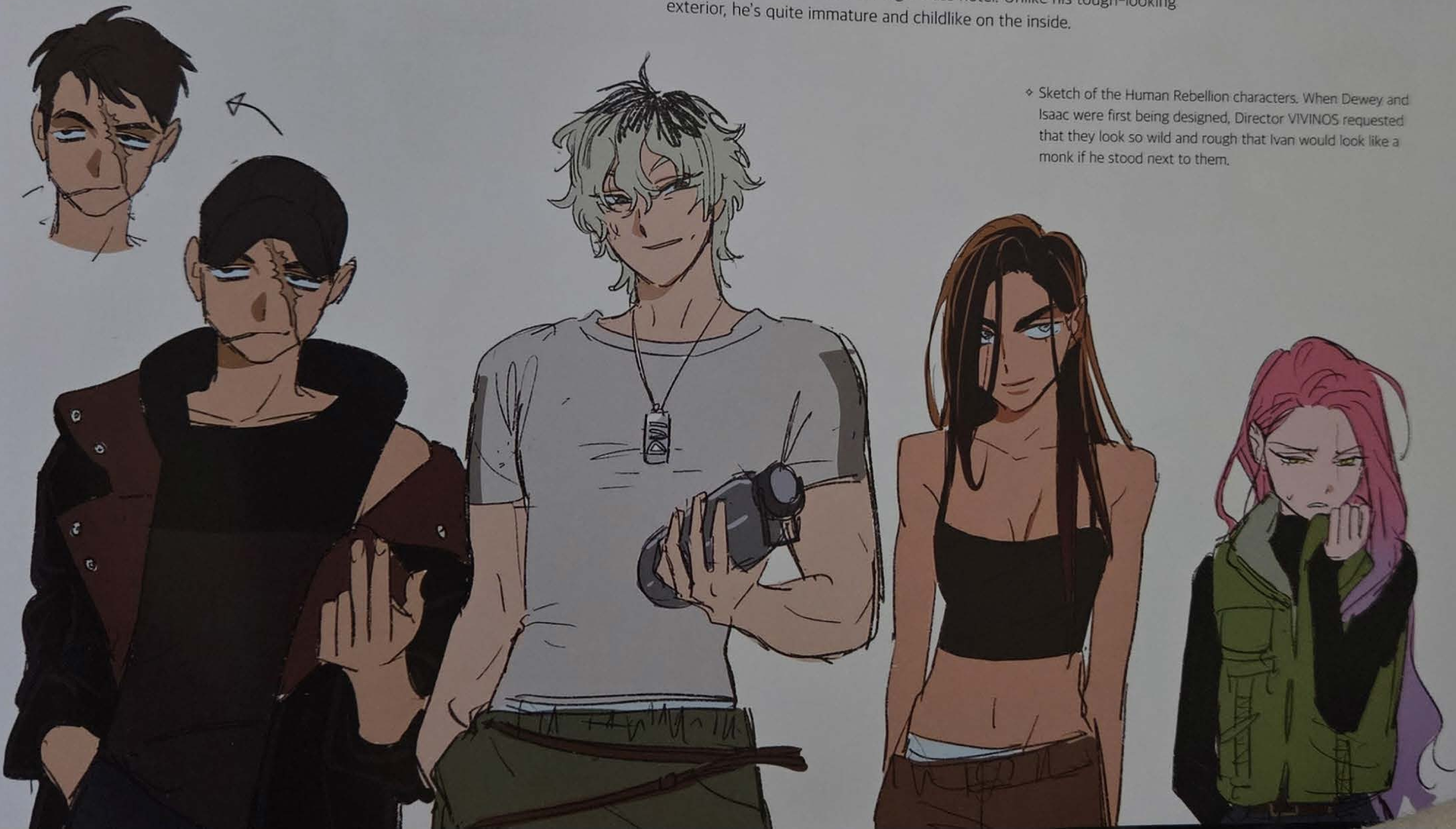


Isaac

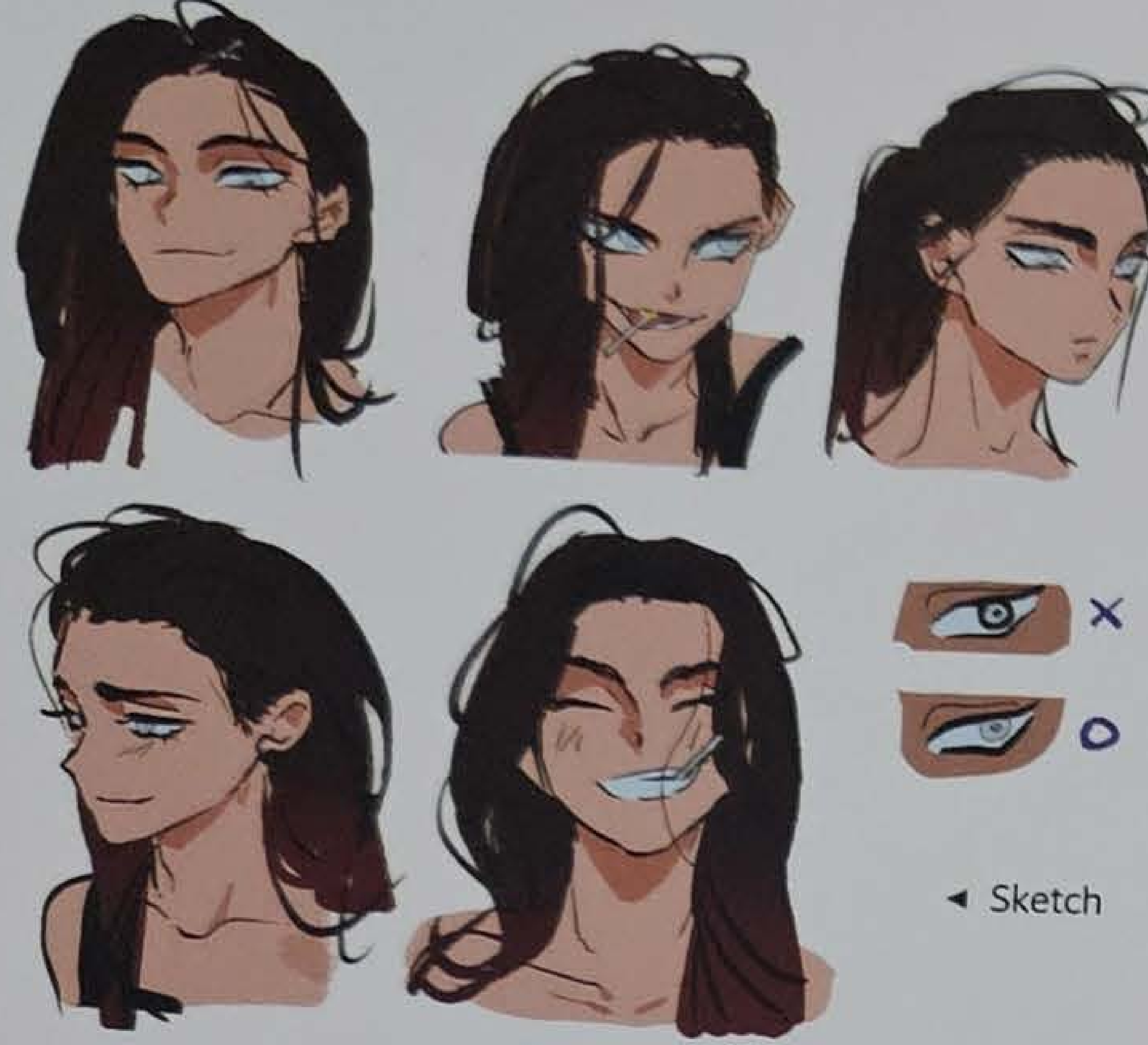
Isaac has been in the rebel army longer than all the others. Even at his young age, he has a sharp mind and the calm demeanor of someone much older. He has had a lofty dream of liberating humans for a long time. He took in Dewey from the streets as a child, and is basically like a father and a brother to him. Isaac has brought many young people, including Hyuna, into the rebellion and infected them with his desire for freedom.

Dewey

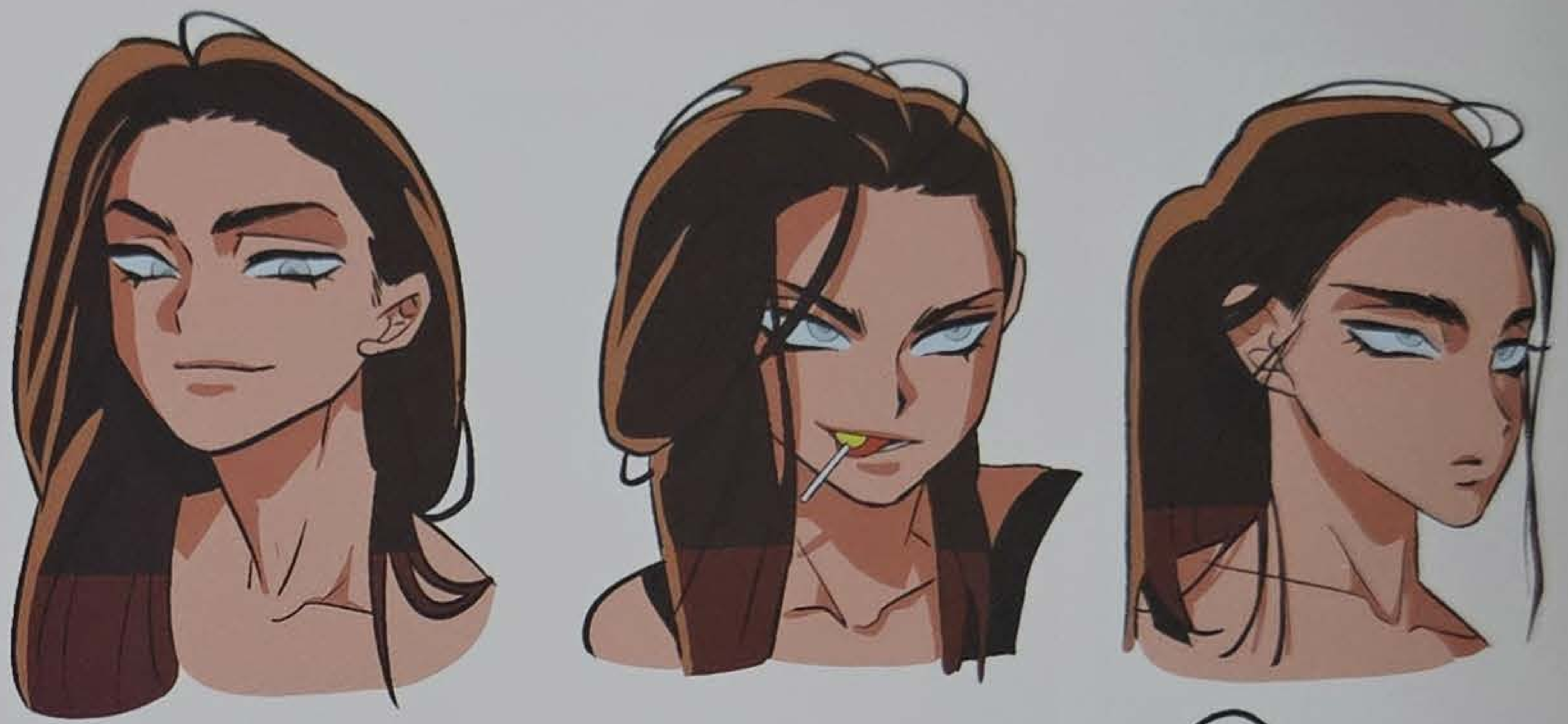
Isaac's closest ally and the physical muscle of the rebel army. His personality is rough and playful, and he lives a carefree life. He sticks to the intelligent Isaac like glue, and his teasing personality helped Hyuna open up back when she had closed her heart to others. He is one of the biggest reasons why Hyuna became the leader of the rebel army. Because he's from the streets, he's more than happy to live in the dirty rebel base like it's a high-class hotel. Unlike his tough-looking exterior, he's quite immature and childlike on the inside.

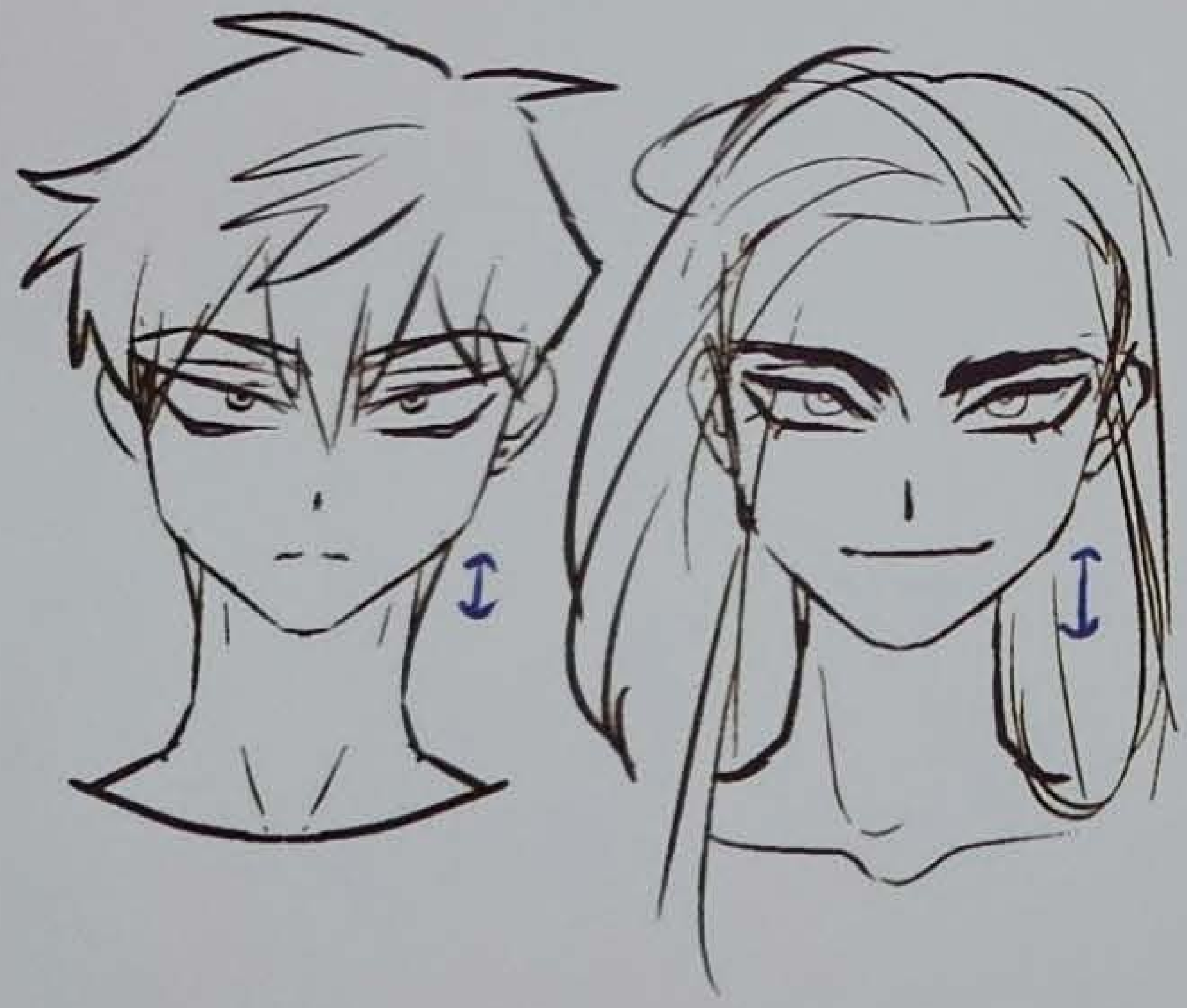


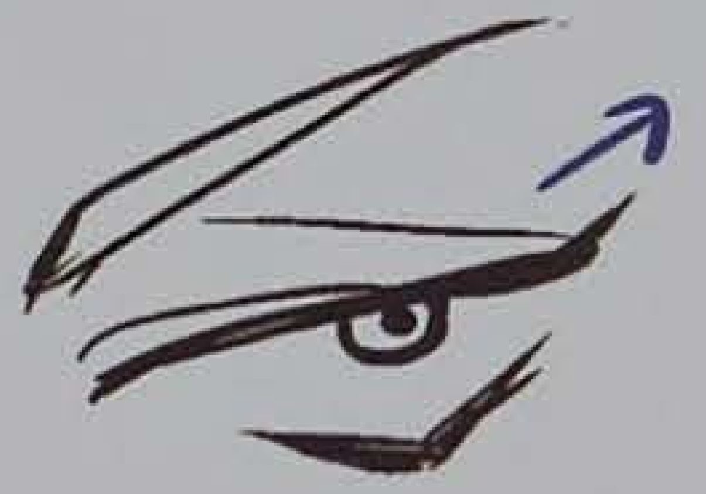
⋄ Sketch of the Human Rebellion characters. When Dewey and Isaac were first being designed, Director VIVINOS requested that they look so wild and rough that Ivan would look like a monk if he stood next to them.



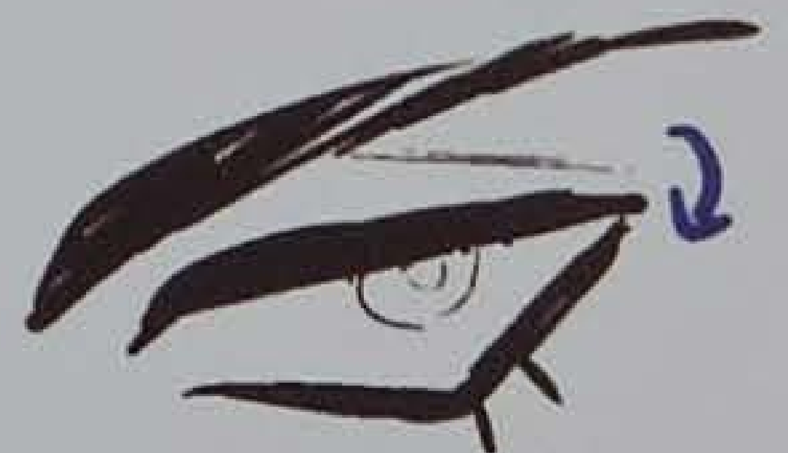
◄ Sketch





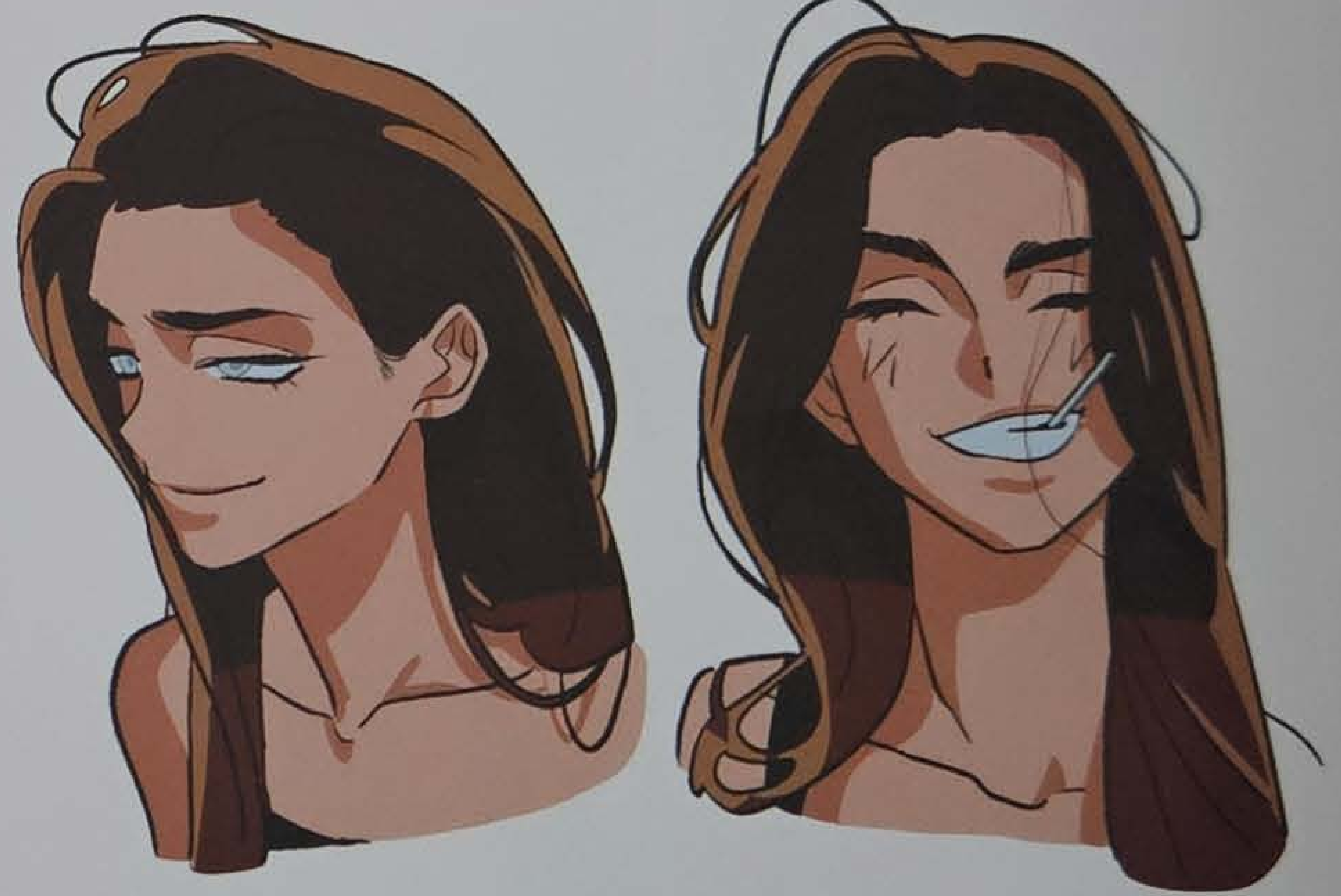


Till
The corner of his eye is sharper.

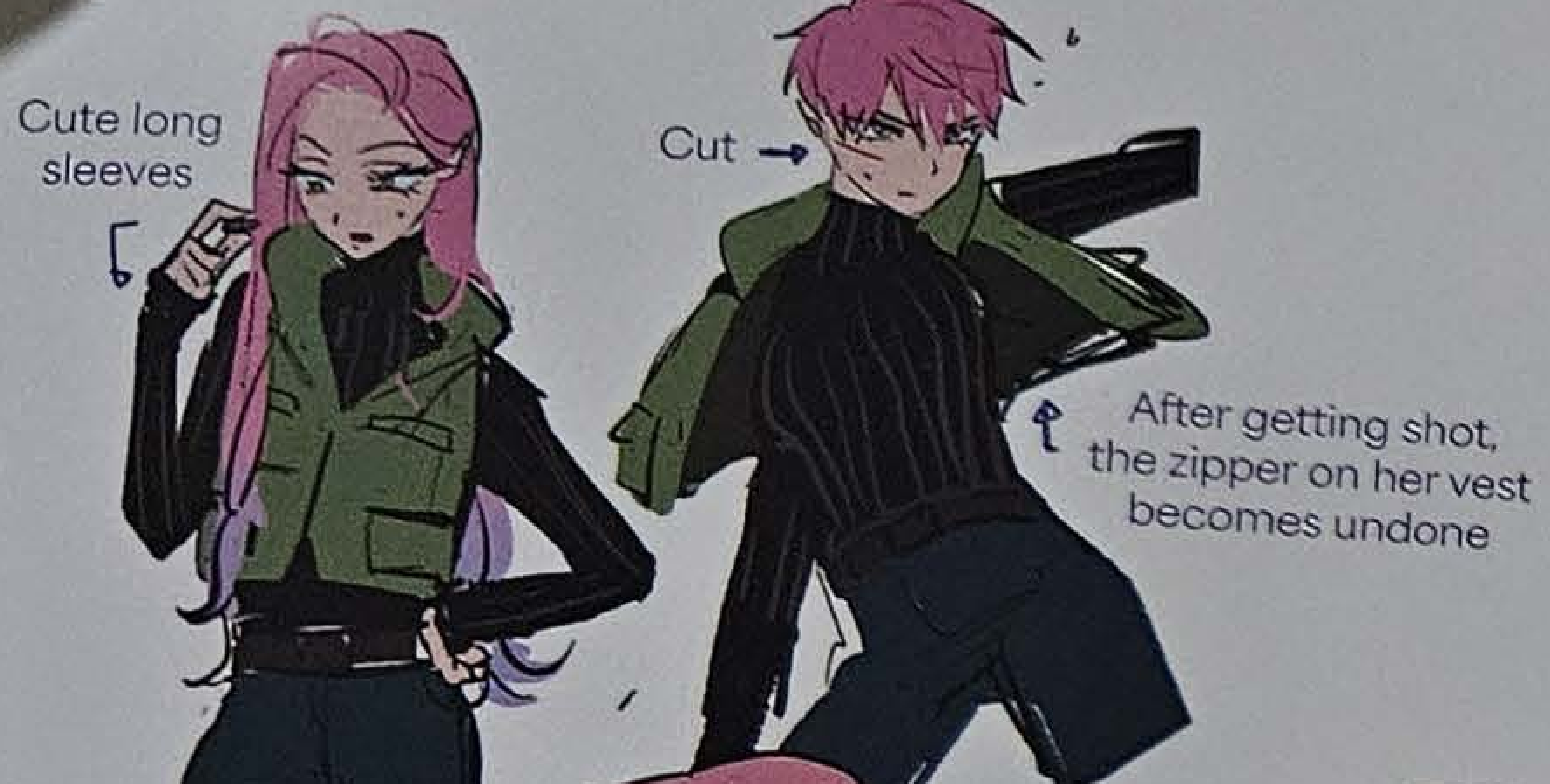


Hyuna
The corner of her eye is more closed off.

Difference between Till and Hyuna
Hyuna has a more angular, "handsome" face than Till.

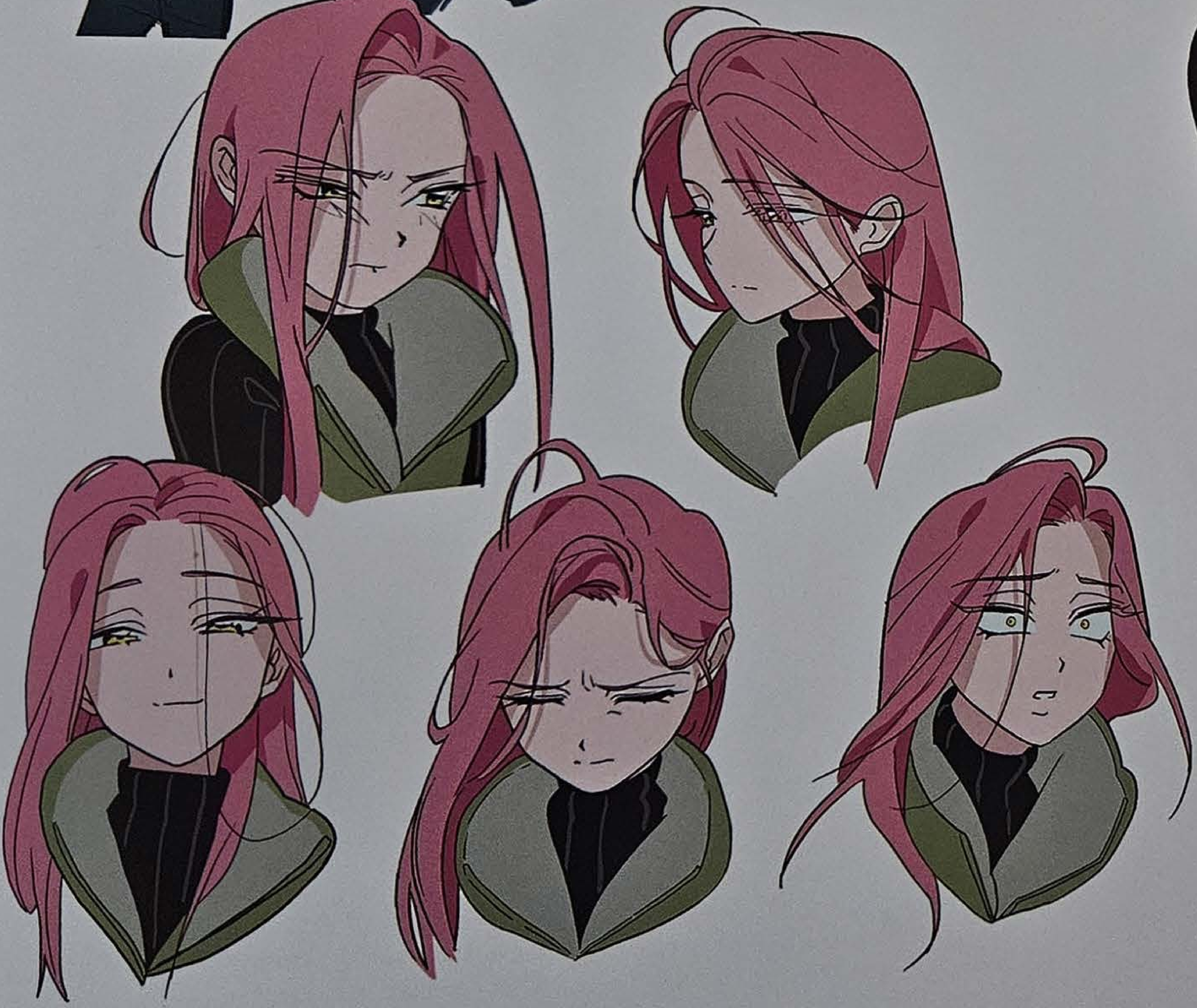


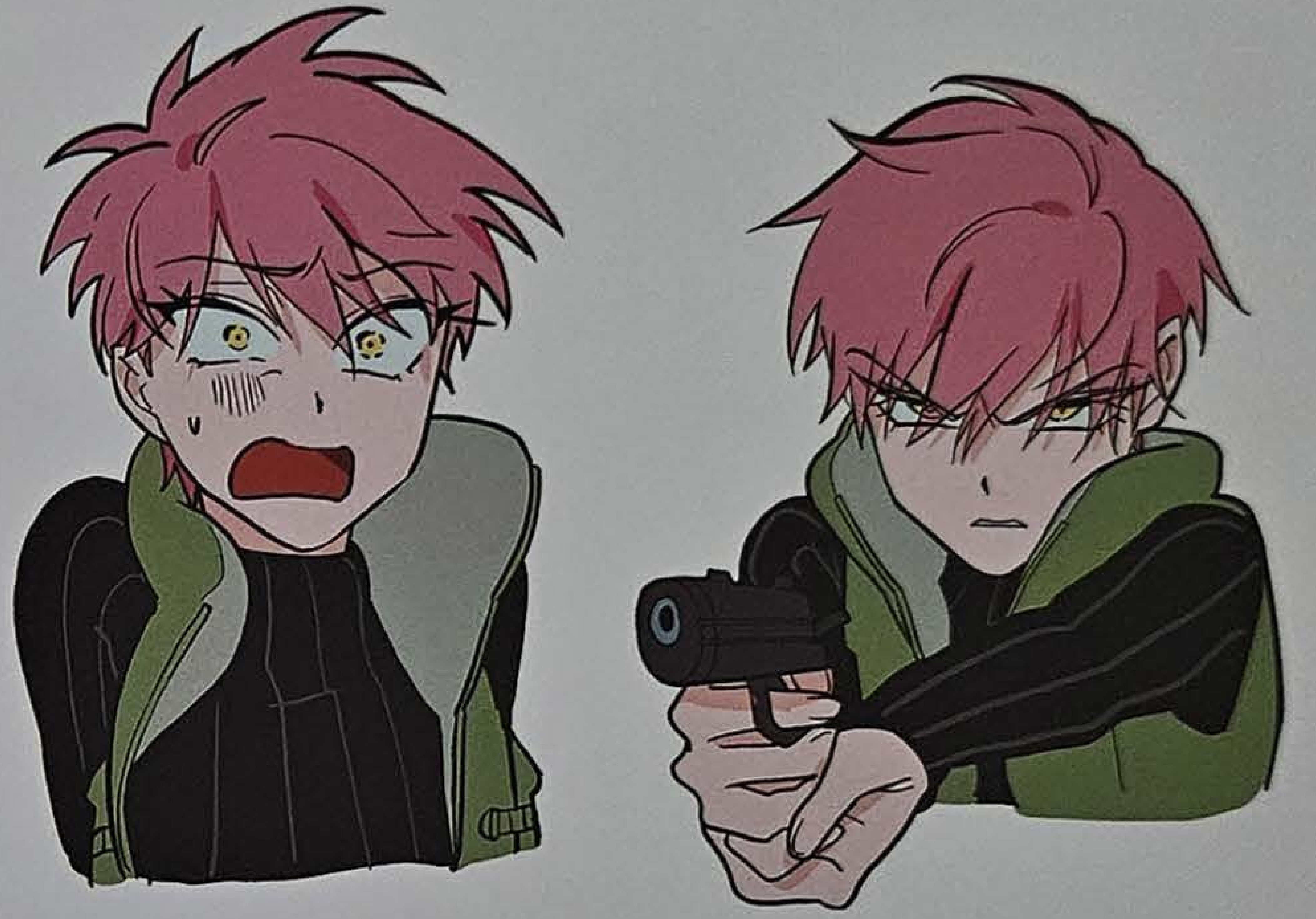
✧ We wanted to emphasize a deep T-zone, with the distance between her eyebrows and eye changing greatly depending on the angle. Unfortunately, this couldn't be implemented very well due to the busy production schedule.


Cute long sleeves
Cut
After getting shot, the zipper on her vest becomes undone

Long Hair Mizi

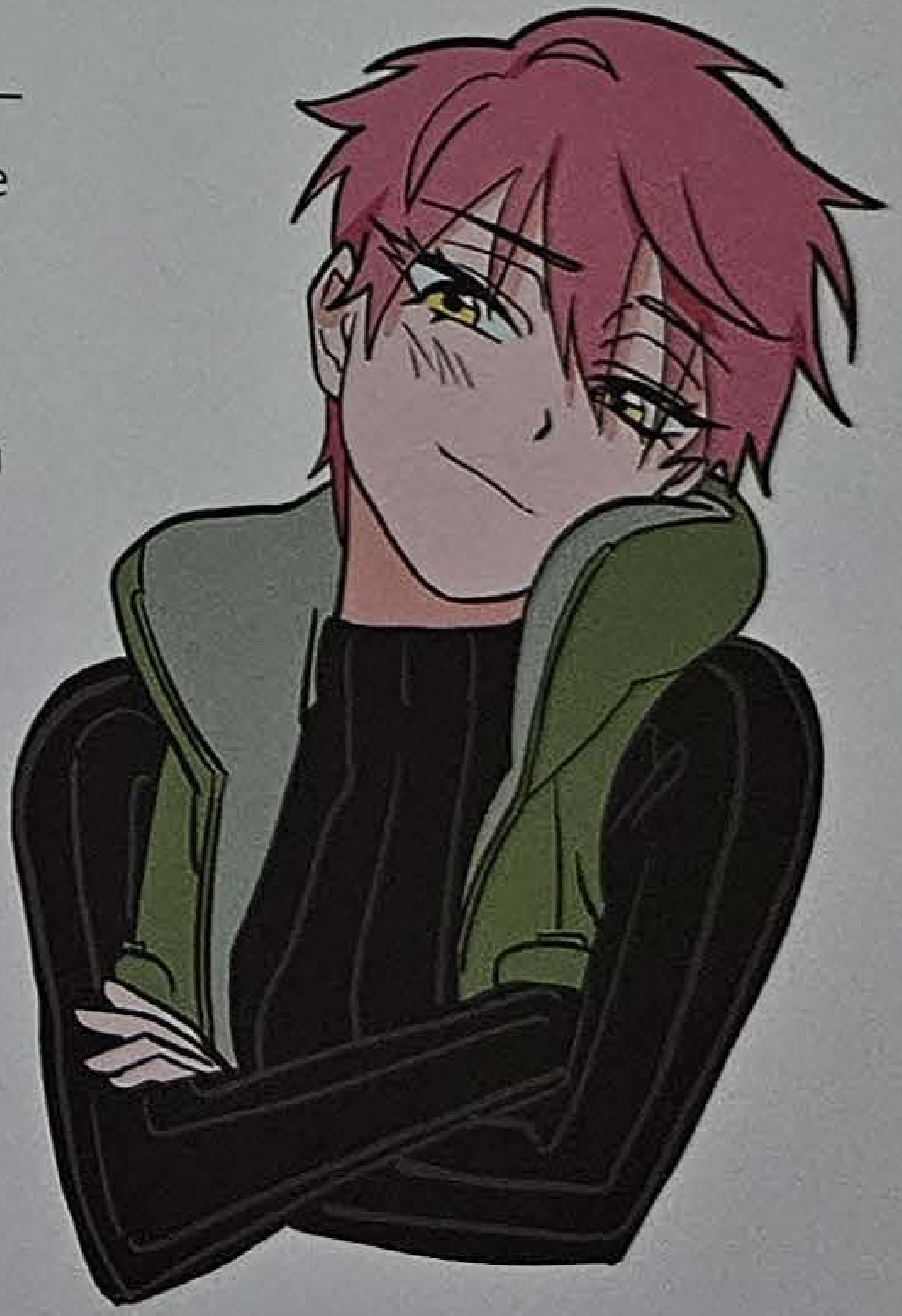
We wanted her to look like someone with a tragic history. Because Mizi was still defensive and lost after Sua's death, we wanted to show her acting more reserved than before.

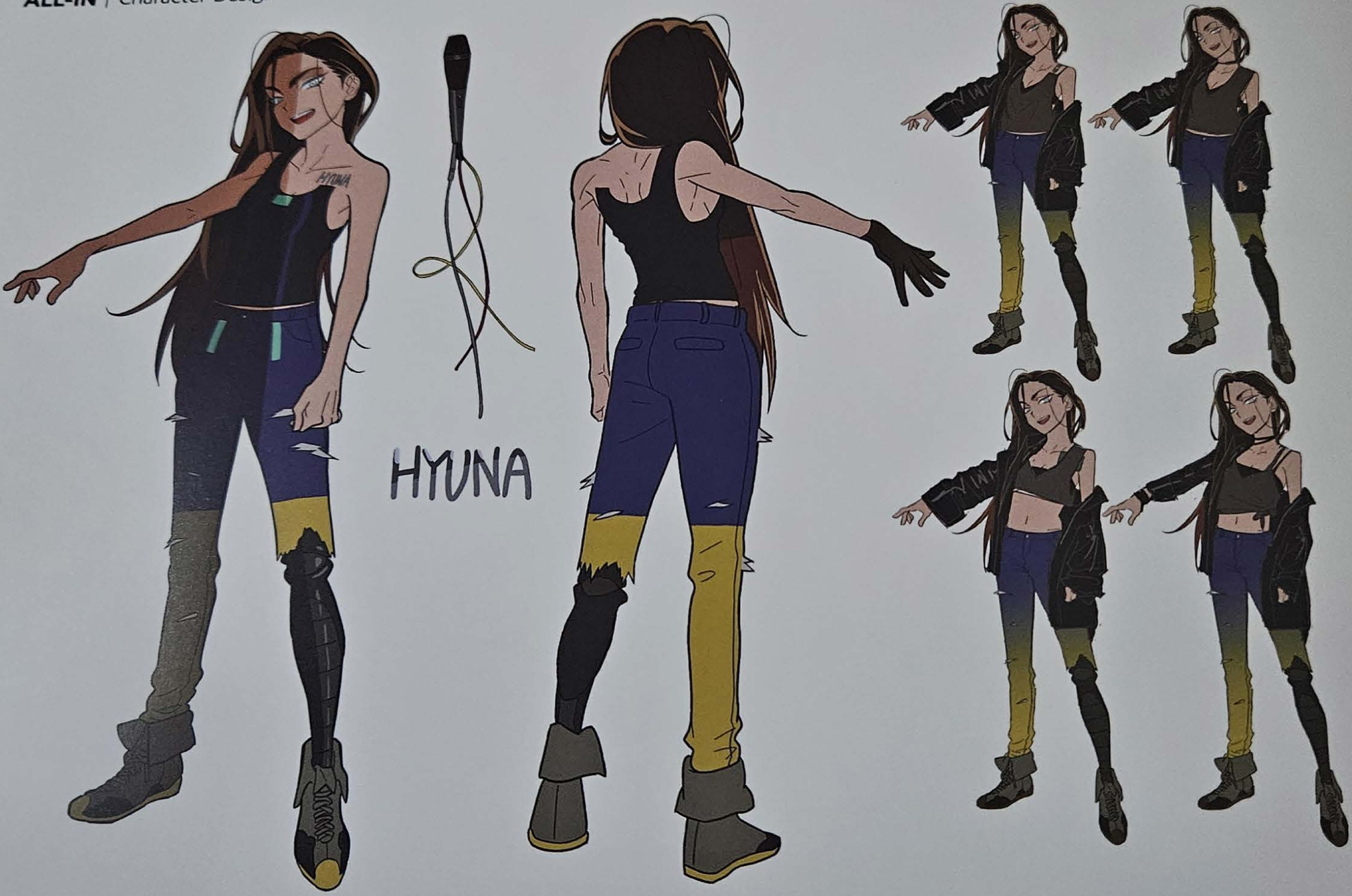


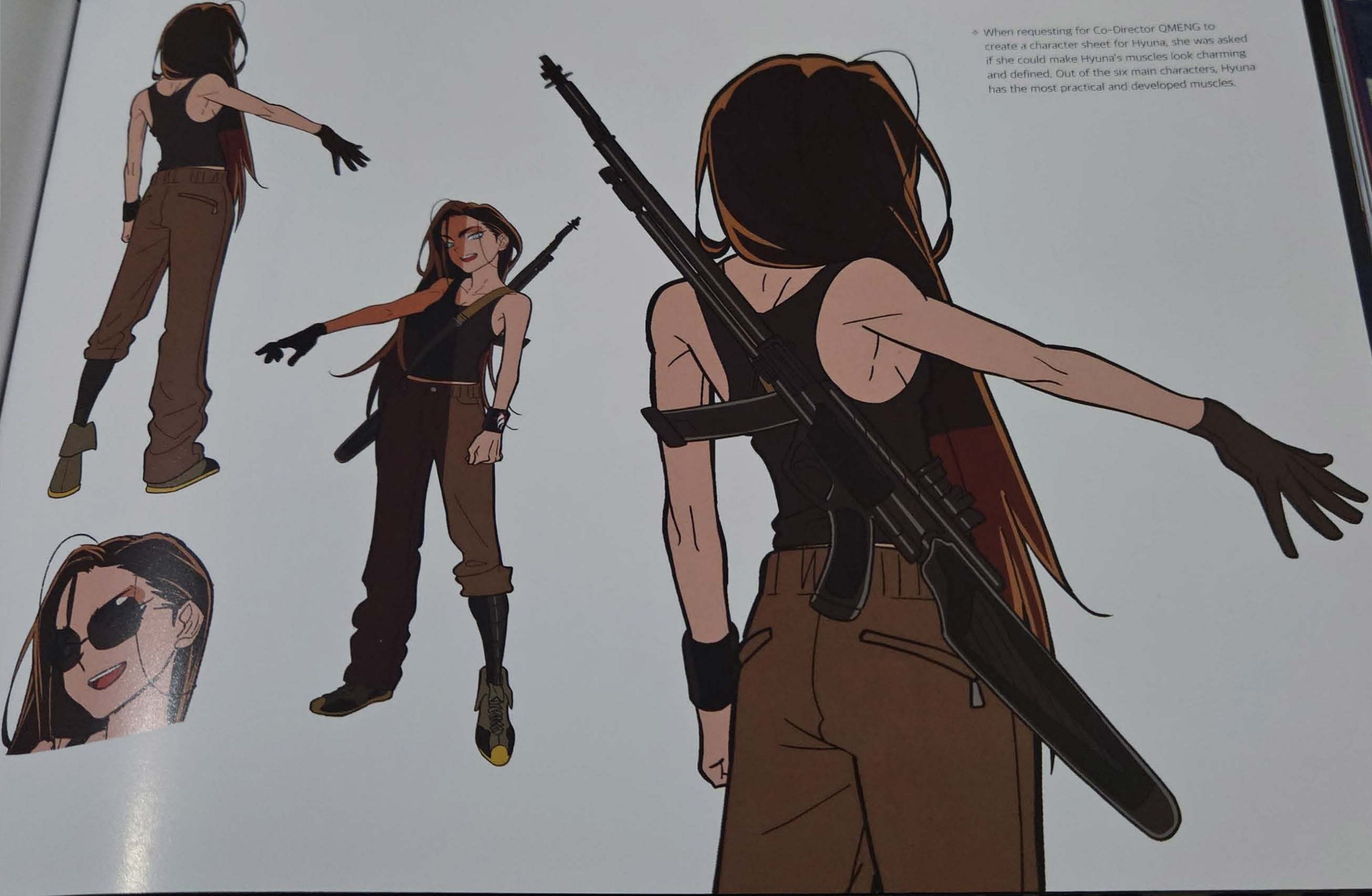


Short Hair Mizi

This is Mizi's new look after she stopped clinging onto the past and grew up. She's adapted well to her new situation to the point that she can now rein Hyuna in and provide logical advice if needed.

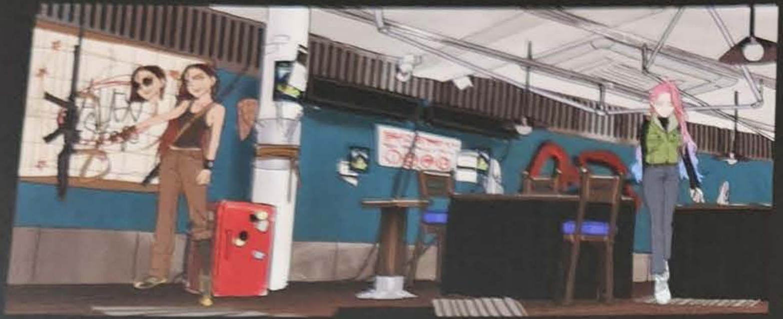



HYUNA
HYUNA

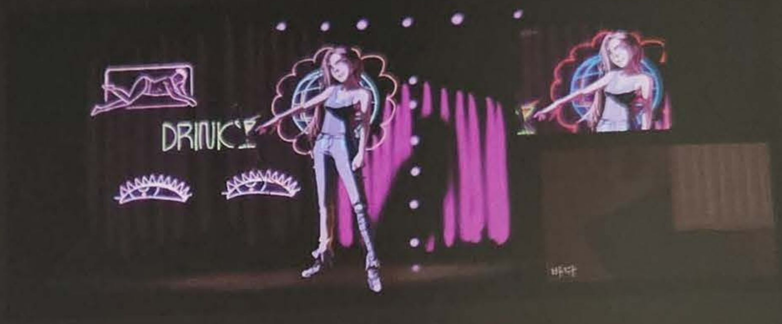


◆ When requesting for Co-Director QMENG to create a character sheet for Hyuna, she was asked if she could make Hyuna's muscles look charming and defined. Out of the six main characters, Hyuna has the most practical and developed muscles.

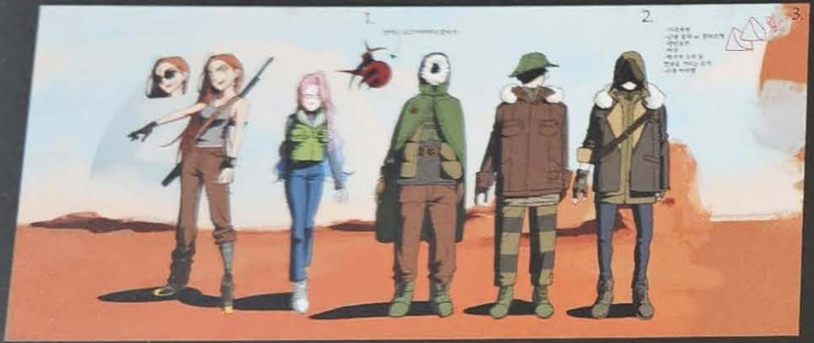
ALL-IN | Mood Board



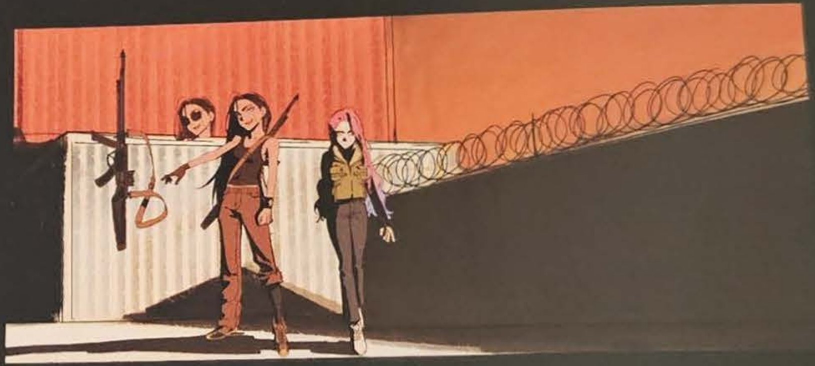
Rebel Base



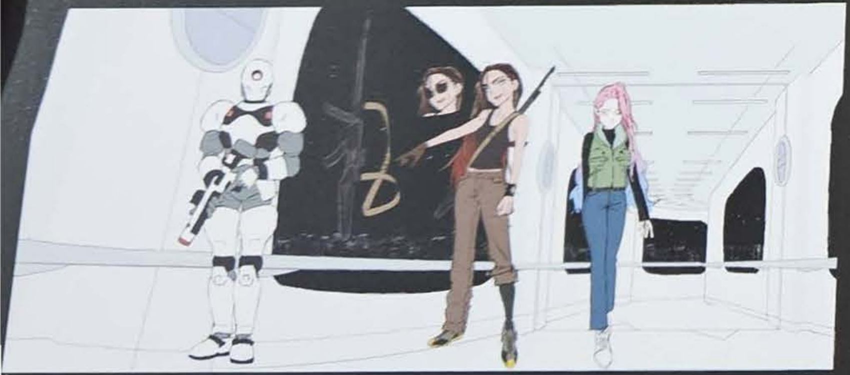
Rebel Base Bar



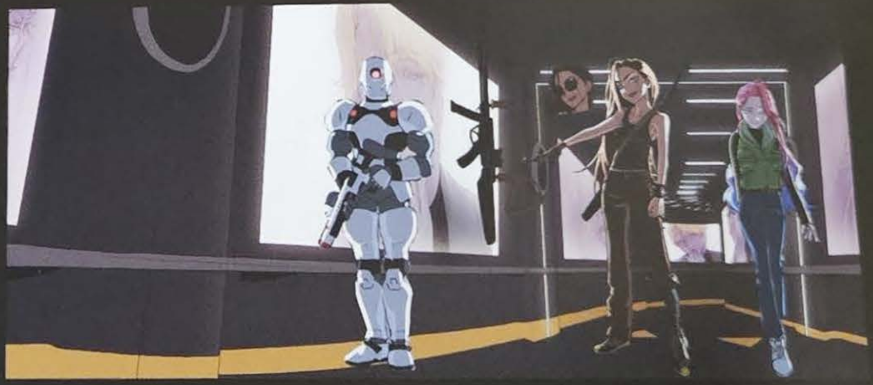
Desert



Outside the venue
(sunset)



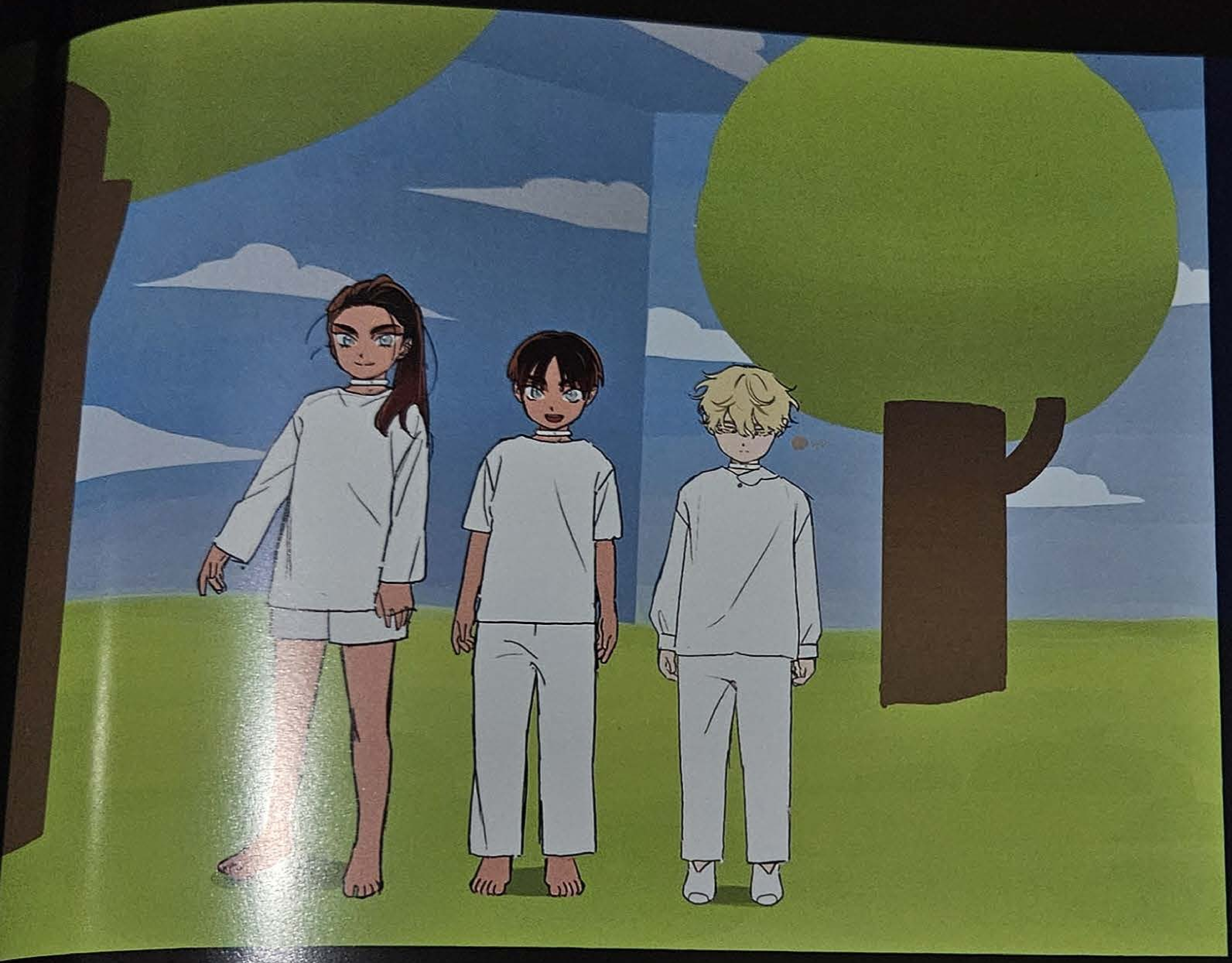
Tunnel A



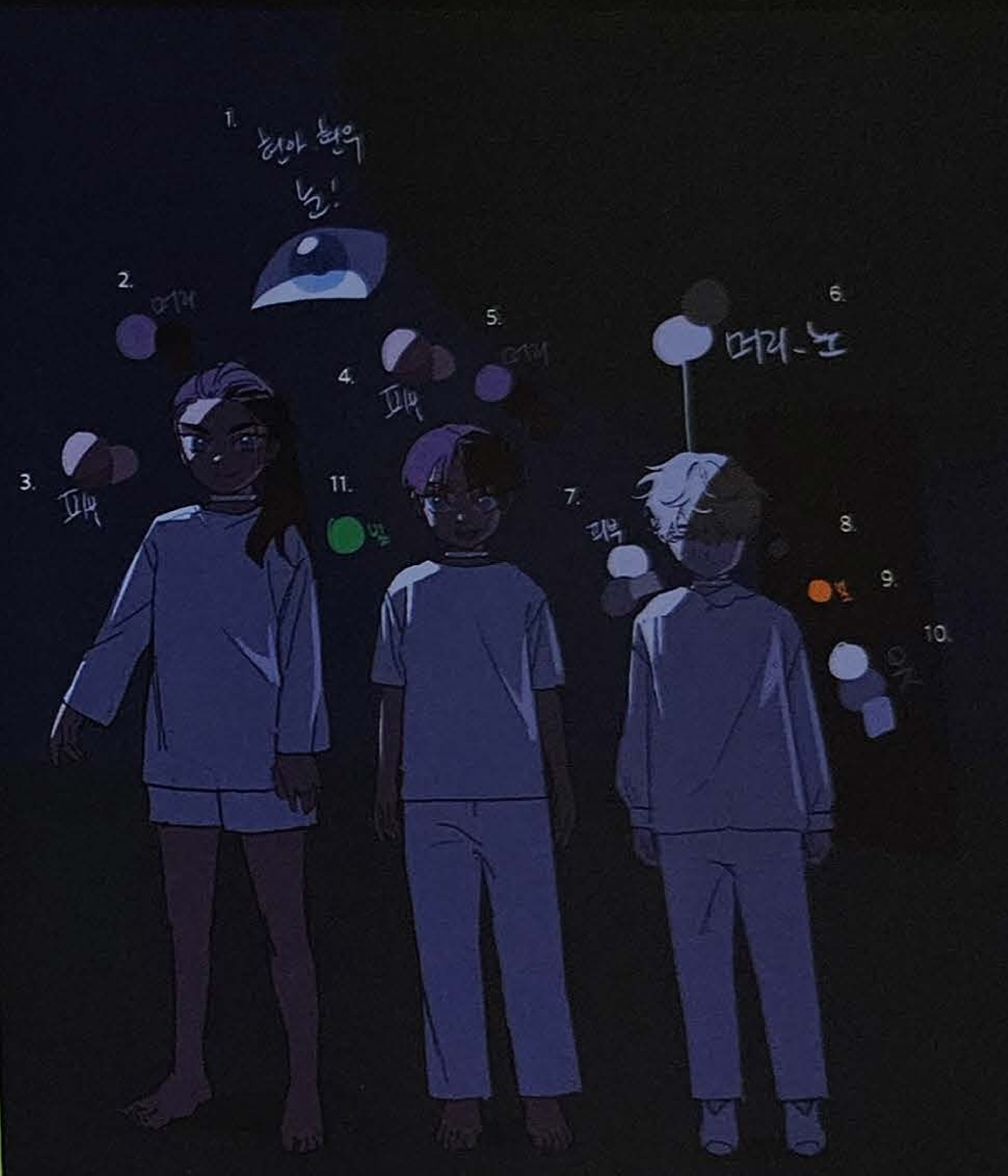
Tunnel B

1. Rebellion Logo: Put it anywhere~ *2. Leather Jacket / Army Parka or Army Vest / Bulletproof Vest / Night Outfit / Bucket Hats or other hats that cover face / Militaristic Items* *3. Light*

Anakt Garden (Day)



Anakt Garden (Night)


1.
현아 현우 눈!
2.
머리
3.
피부
4.
피부
5.
머리
6.
머리-눈
7.
피부
8.
9.
빛
10.
옷
11.
빛

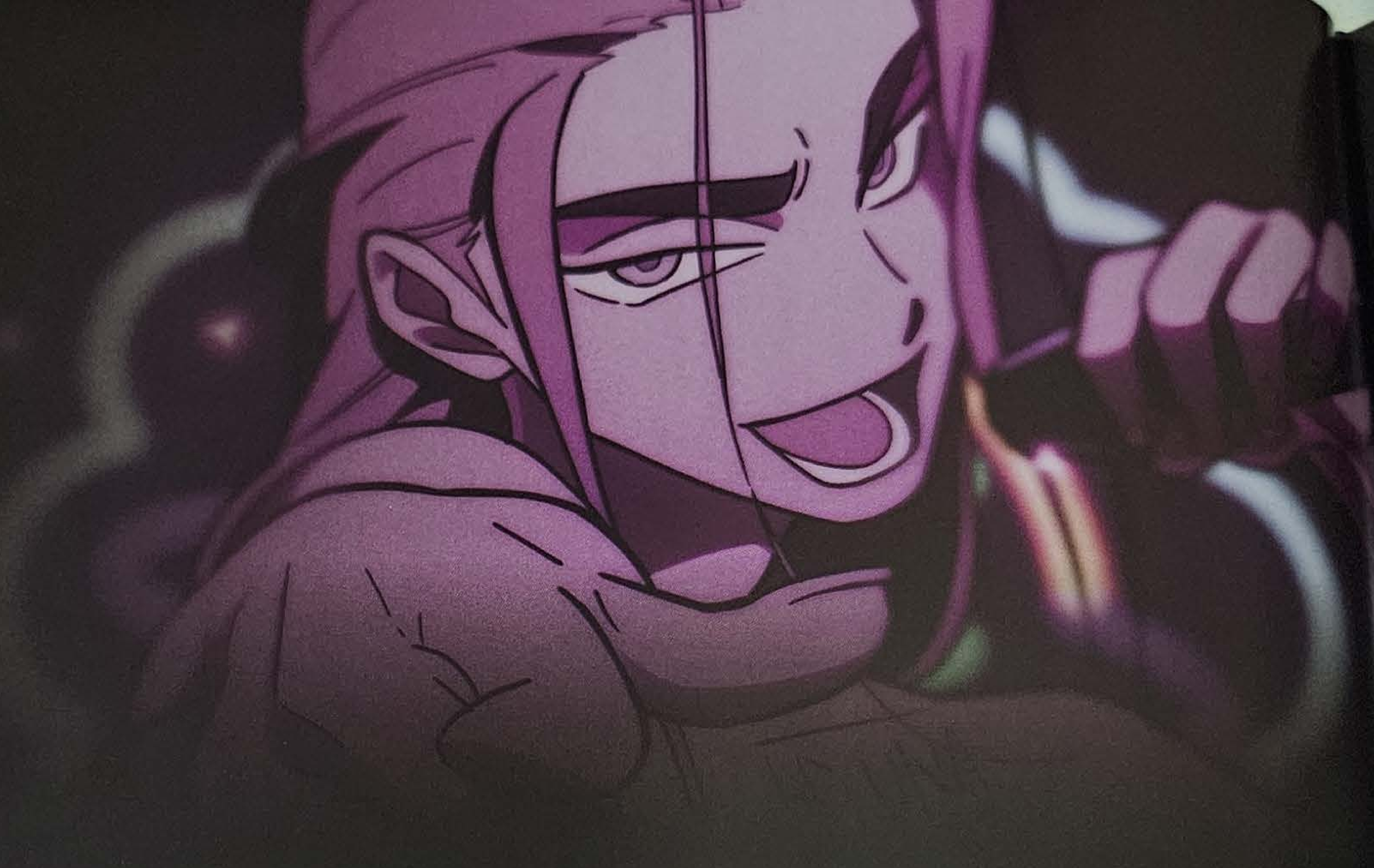
1. Hyuna, Hyun Woo Eye! 2. Hair 3. Skin 4. Skin 5. Hair 6. Hair-Eye 7. Skin 8. Pupils 9. Light 10. Clothes 11. Light

- Since the backgrounds change often, we needed a lot of image boards. Due to time constraints, we settled on doing a mood board instead. We put special effort into refining the colors of Anakt Garden in this round.

ALL-IN COMMENTARY

ALL-IN

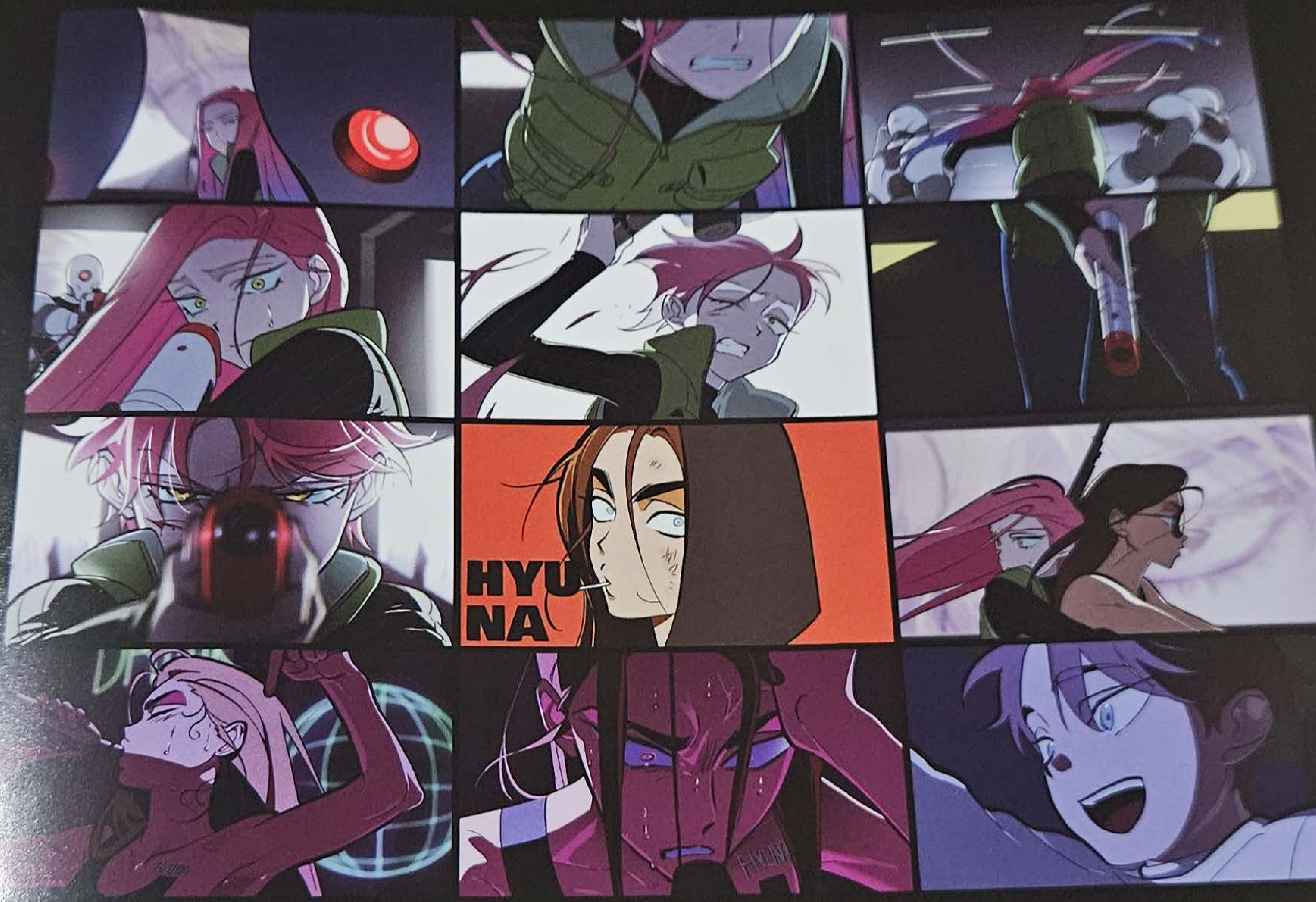
Song by **6FU; (HYUNA)**



Director Commentary

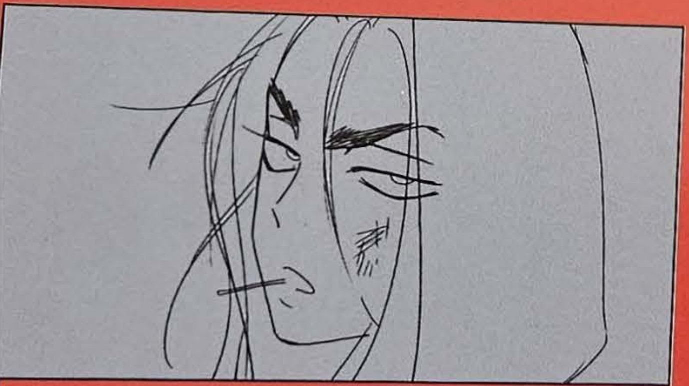
Unlike the previous episodes, this one is an exciting show that'll blow your stress away! We wanted to use quick pacing to show Hyuna's upbeat personality and Mizi's growth.

HYUNA
HYUNA

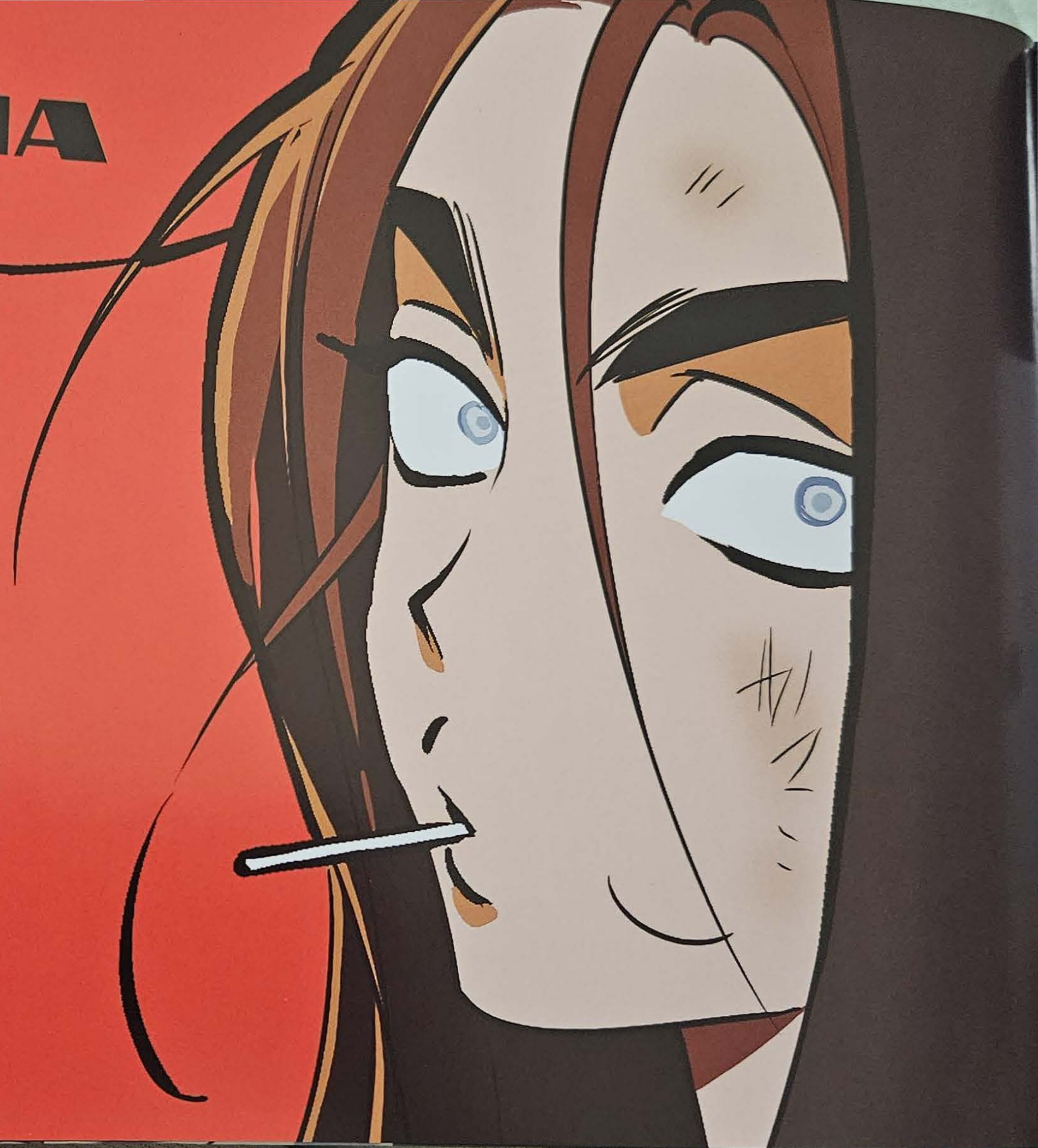

HYU
NA

HYUNA

When we first created Hyuna, she was a serious and stoic character. But as "ALL-IN" became light and upbeat, it also drastically changed Hyuna's character. Even though she has a lighter vibe, her sense of justice has remained the same.

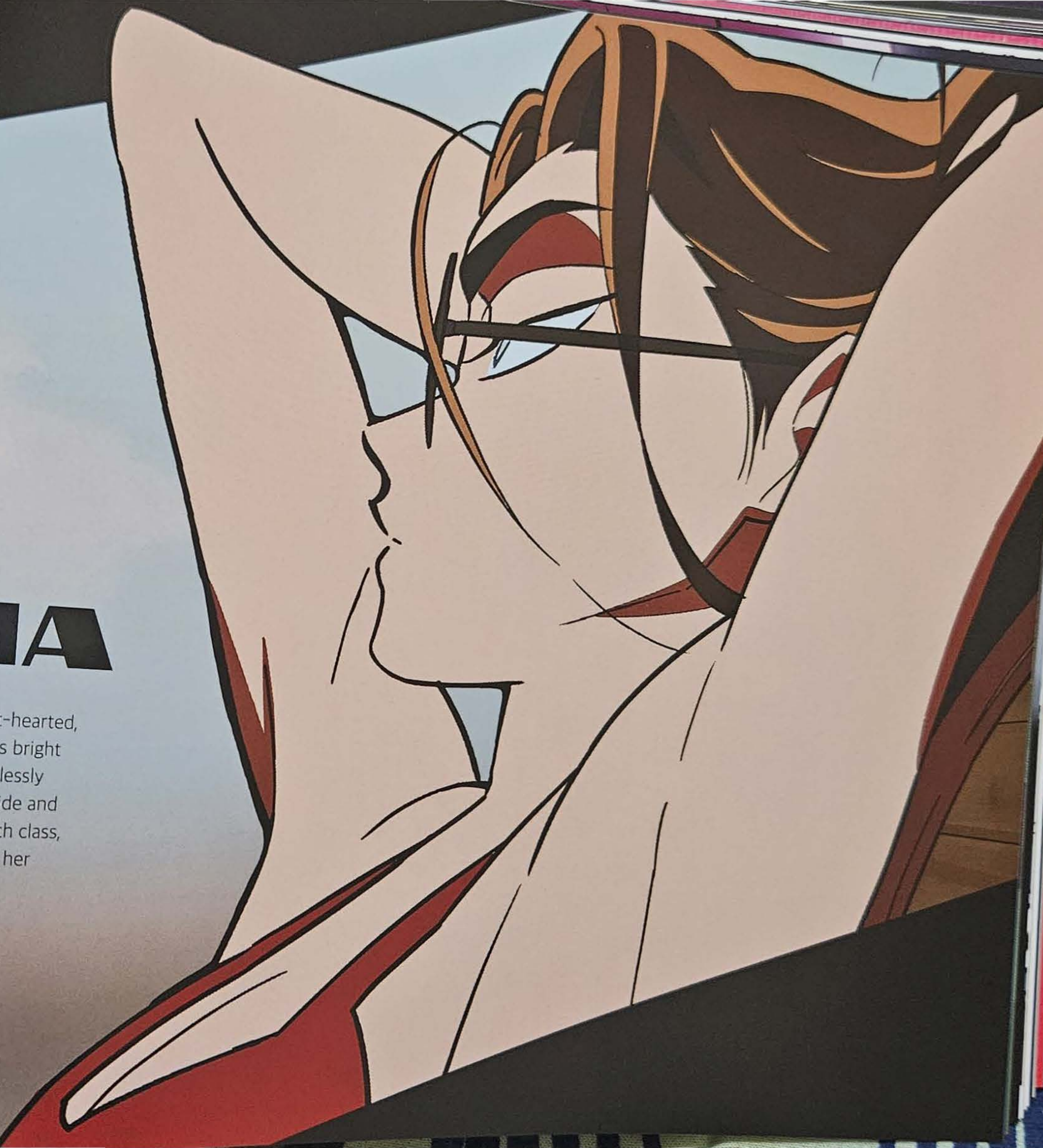


▲ BEFORE



HYUNA

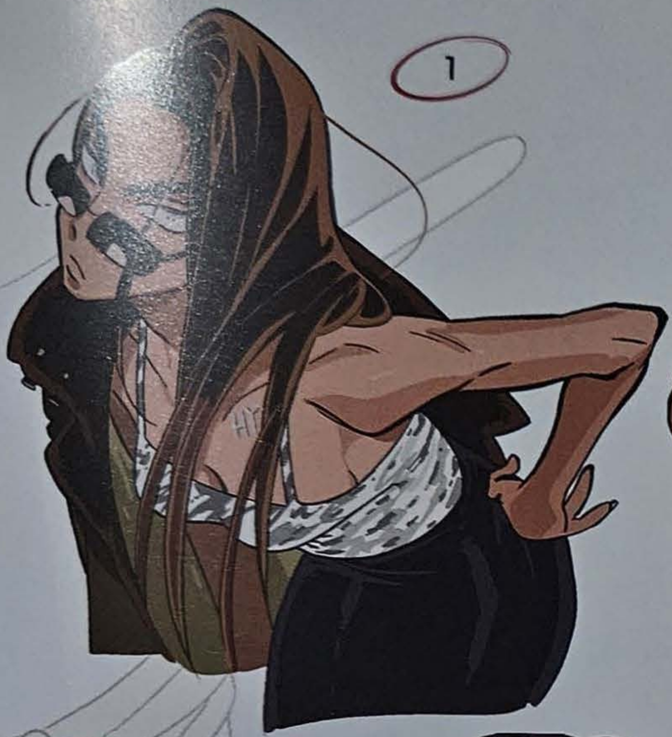
Even though Hyuna usually seems carefree and light-hearted, she carries a deep history within her. She always acts bright and cheery, but her face occasionally betrays an endlessly sad expression. She has grown more on both the inside and the outside compared to the characters from the 50th class, and her desire to live freely is strong, perhaps due to her revulsion towards Anakt Garden.



Hyuna helps Mizi experience a free life after rescuing her, breaking through her ingrained understanding of how a pet human should live. Even through conflict and sometimes violent situations, Hyuna shows Mizi what it means to live life on your own terms.

Their everyday lives may be crude, rough and dangerous, but the rebels live with a freedom that most humans don't dare dream of.

1



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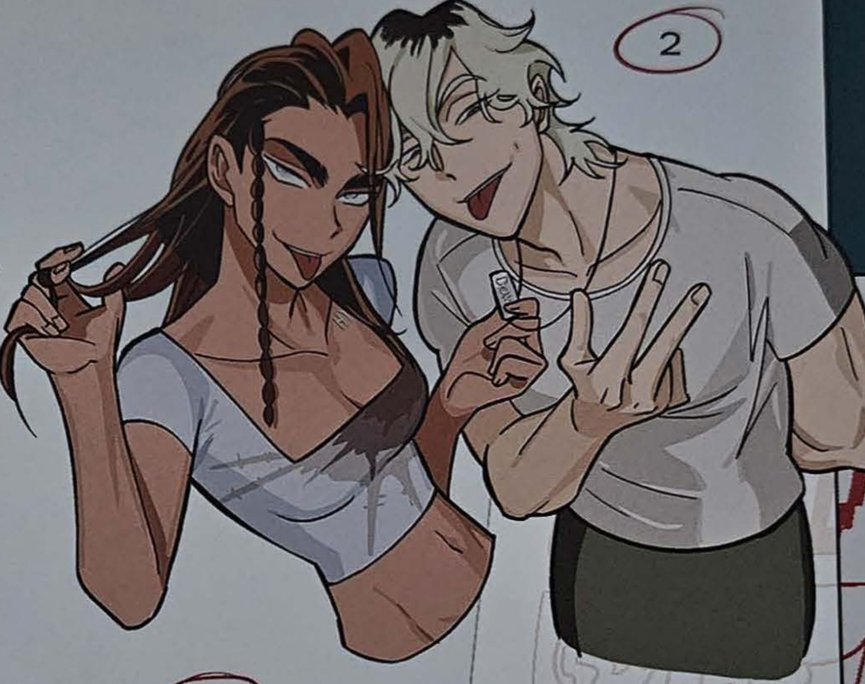

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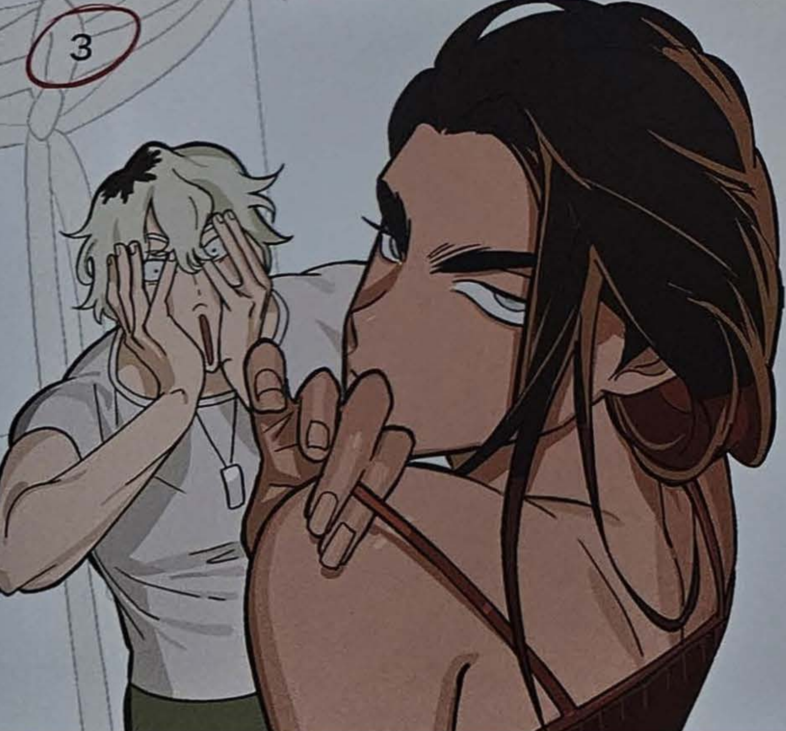

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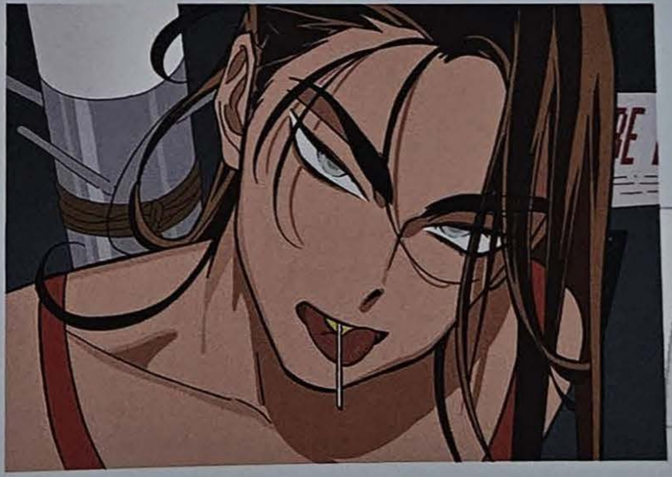
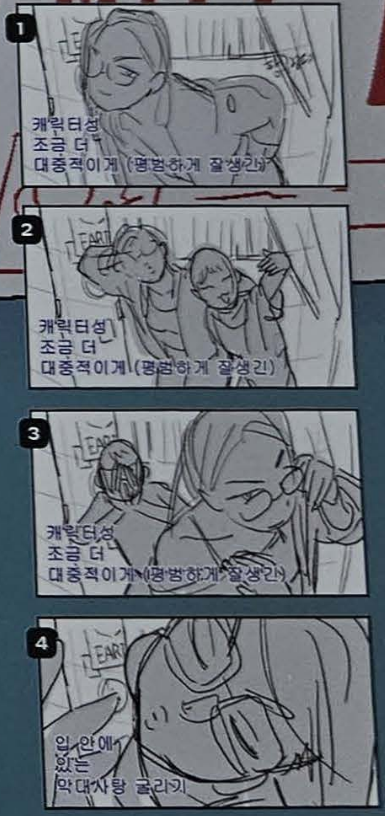
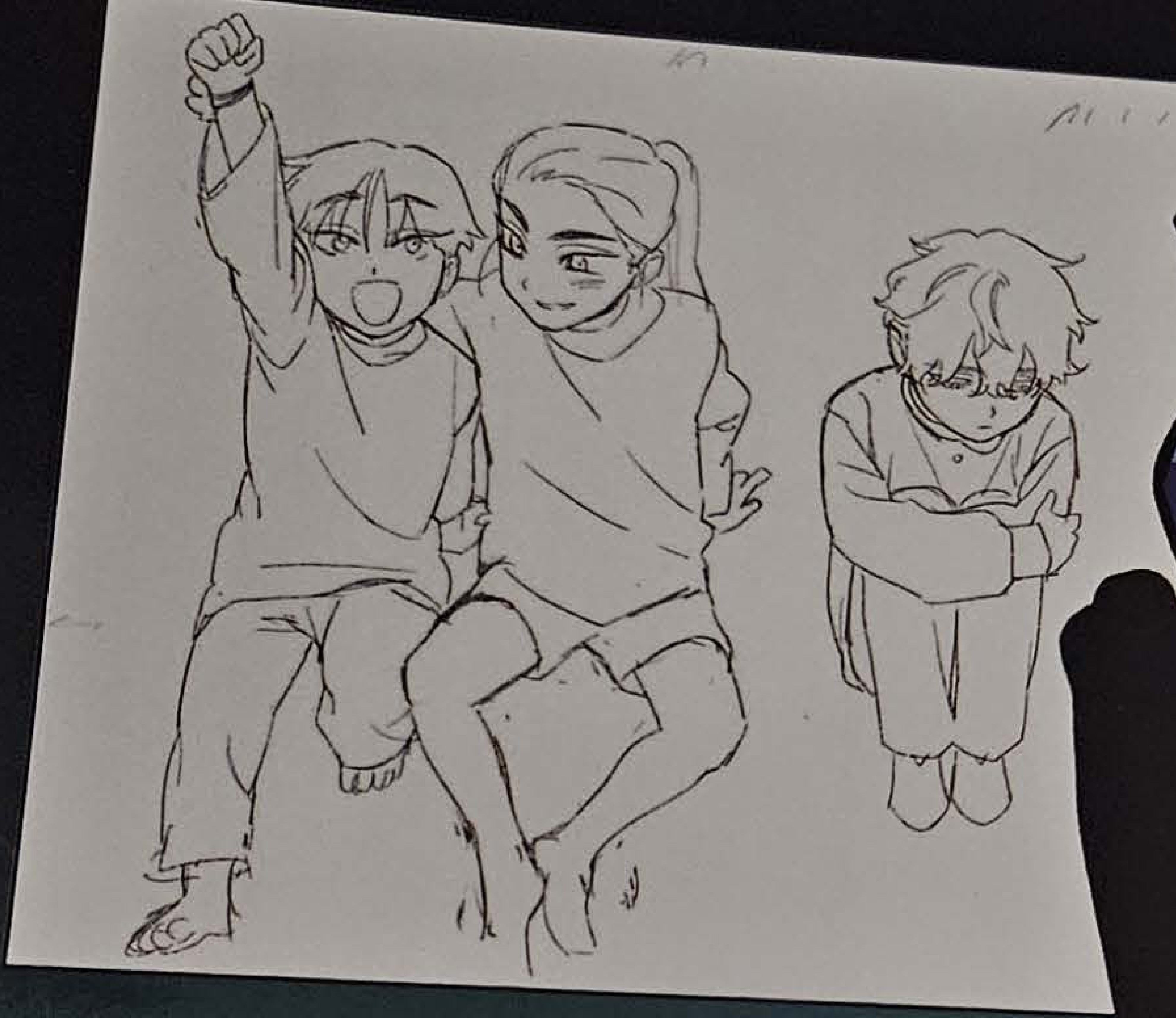


BEHIND

Hyuna was sillier and more playful in the storyboard, but in the final product she changed into a more charismatic and mature character. We also threw in a muscular side character to stand next to her!

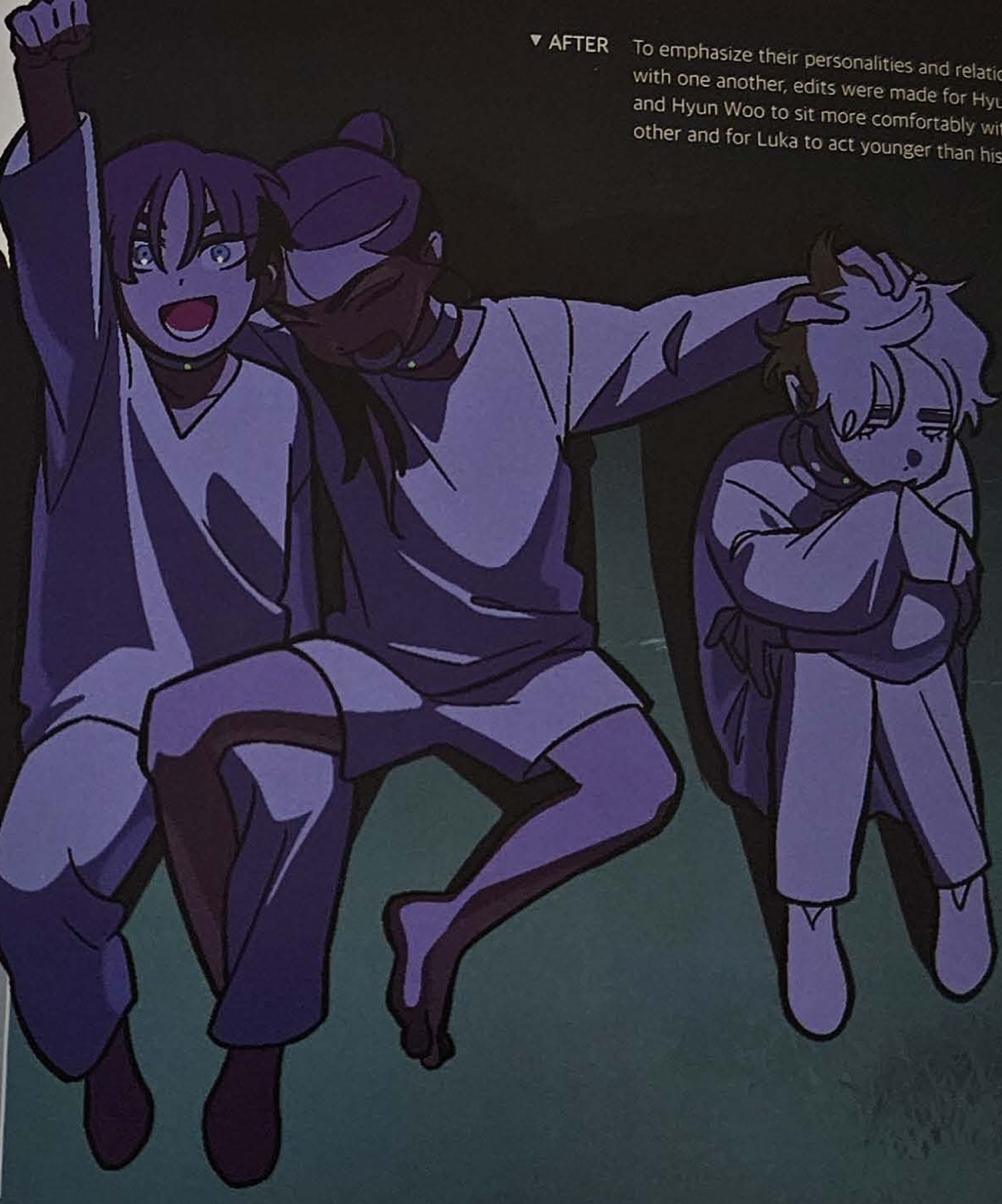

1
캐릭터성
조금 더
대중적이게 (평범하게 잘생긴)
2
캐릭터성
조금 더
대중적이게 (평범하게 잘생긴)
3
캐릭터성
조금 더
대중적이게 (평범하게 잘생긴)
4
입 안에
있는
막대사탕 굴리기

1-3. *Make her look more mainstream (generically handsome)*
4. *Roll the lollipop in her mouth*



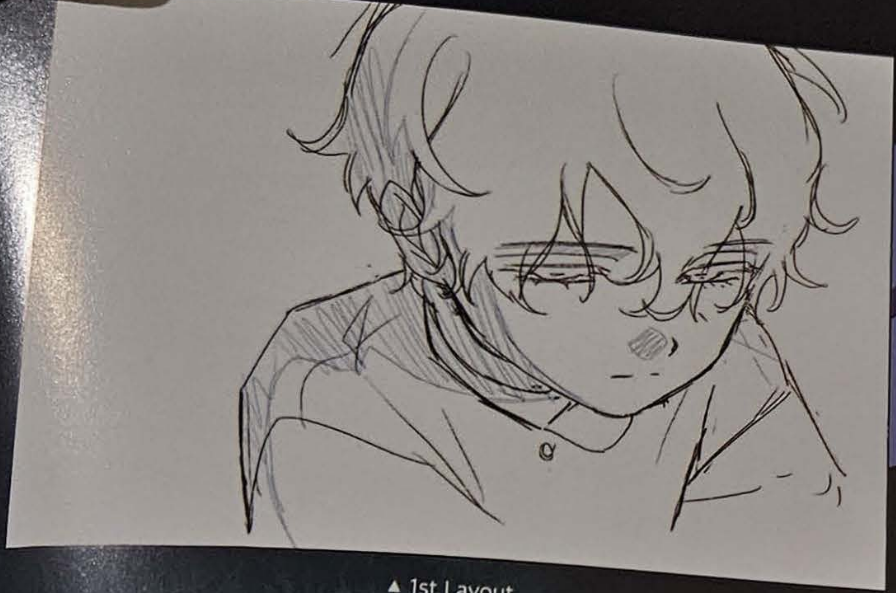
▲ BEFORE

At first, Luka was sitting separately from Hyuna and Hyun Woo.

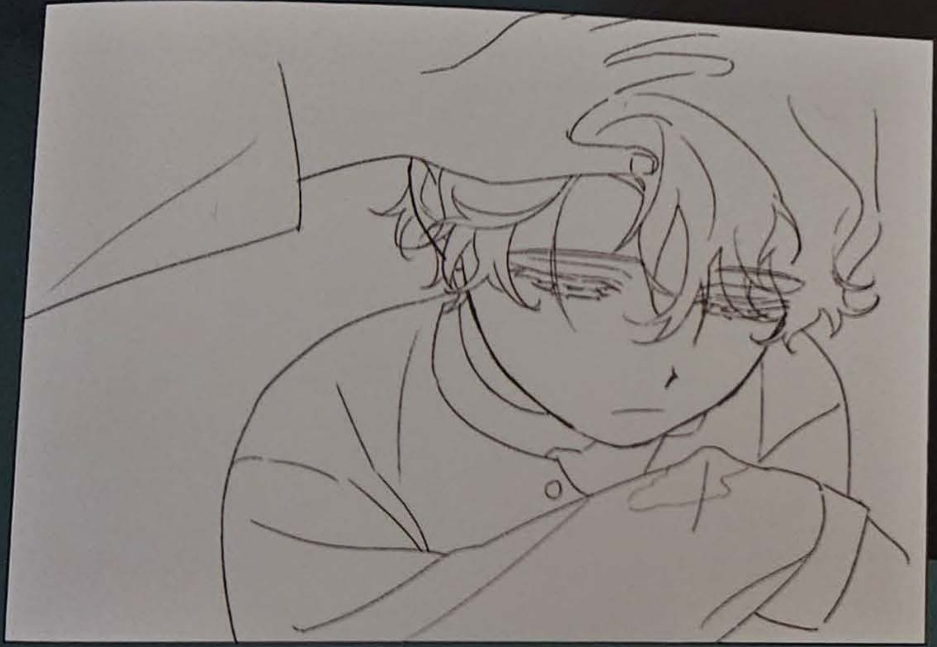


▼ AFTER To emphasize their personalities and relationship with one another, edits were made for Hyuna and Hyun Woo to sit more comfortably with each other and for Luka to act younger than his age.

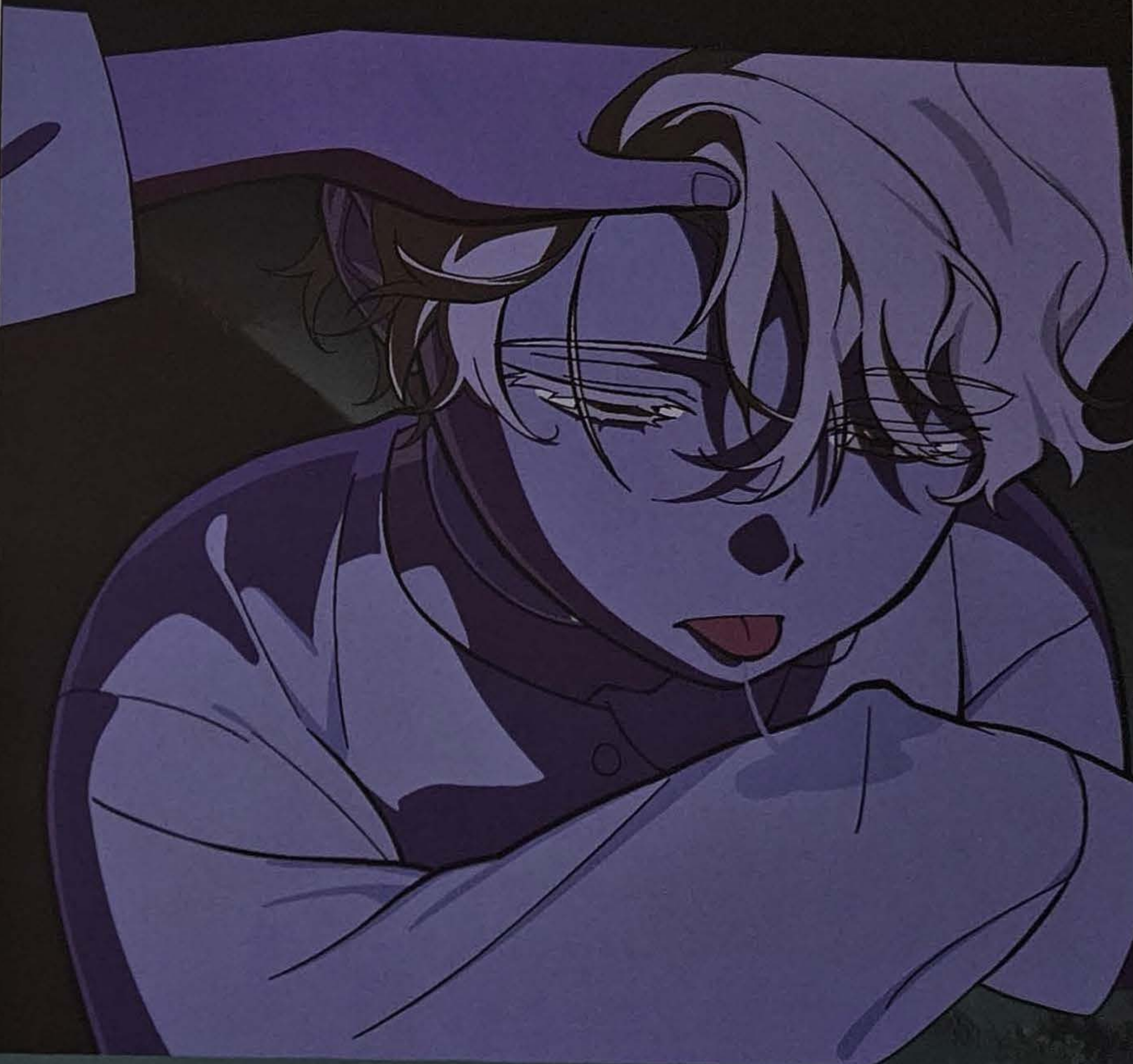
Hyuna's brother Hyun Woo appears for the first time in "ALL-IN" after a glimpse of him was shown back in "SWEET DREAM." Hyuna's sense of justice and upstanding personality were influenced by her brother. Hyuna and Luka's relationship actually started because Hyun Woo would often take care of Luka, who was an outcast in Anakt Garden.



▲ 1st Layout

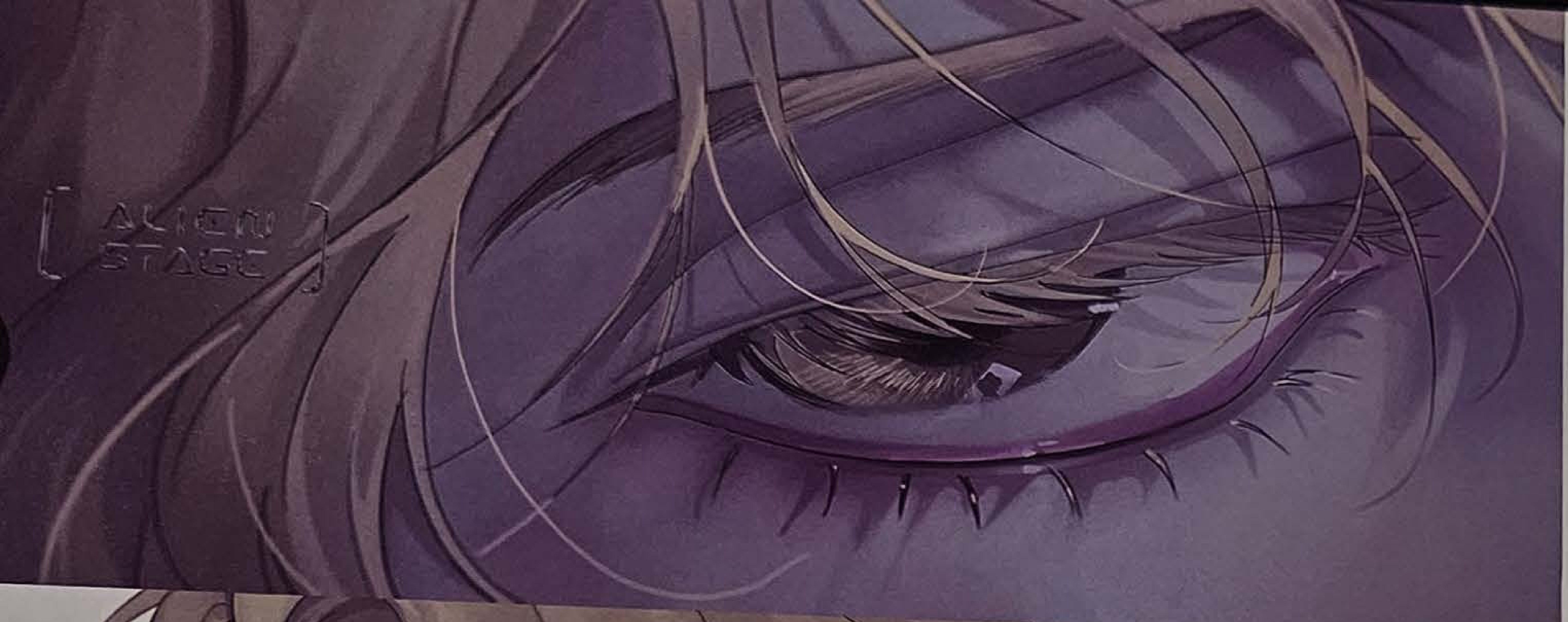


▲ 2nd Layout



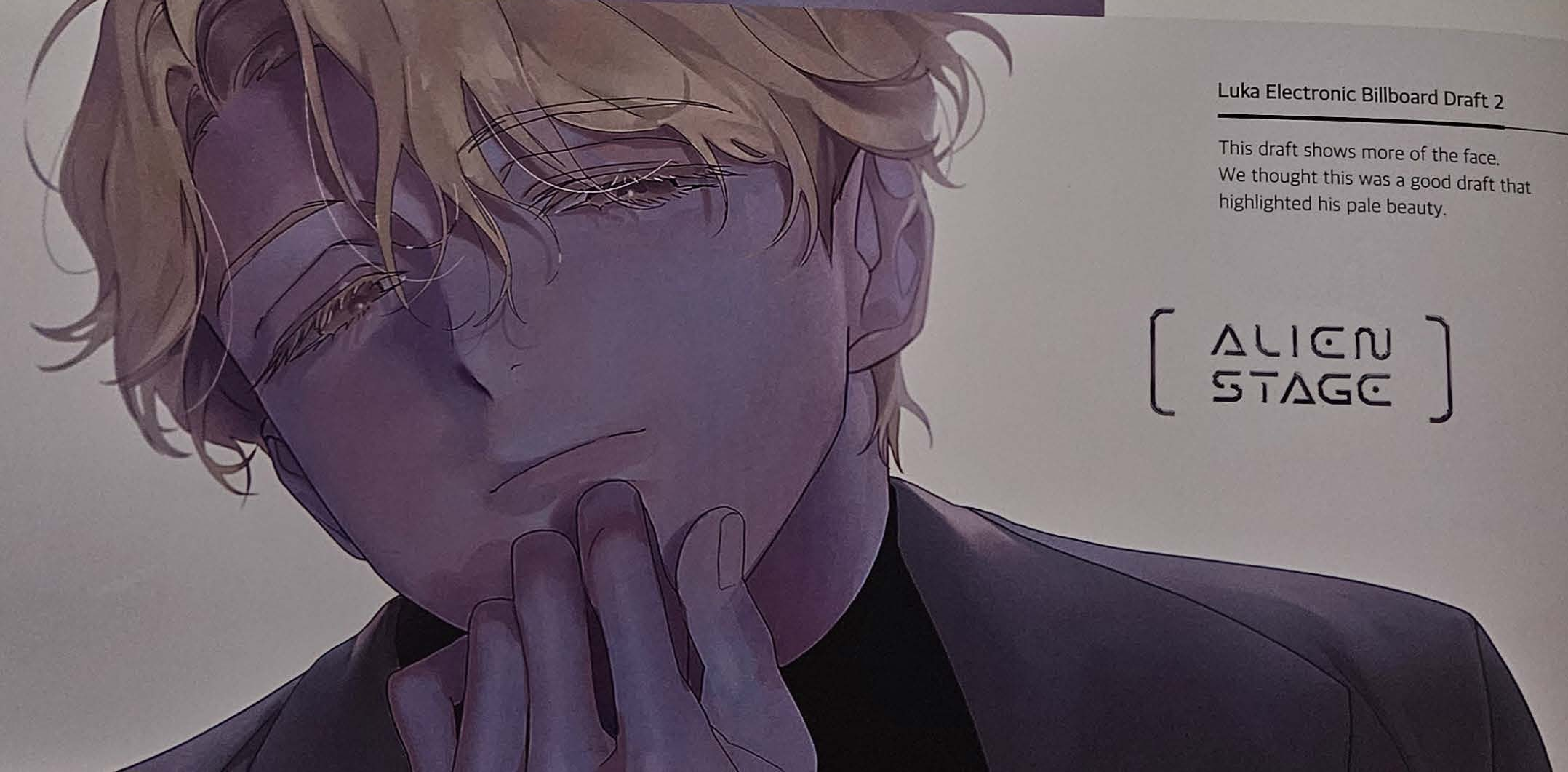
▲ AFTER

To give more emphasis that this was Luka's childhood, we showed him biting his sleeves.



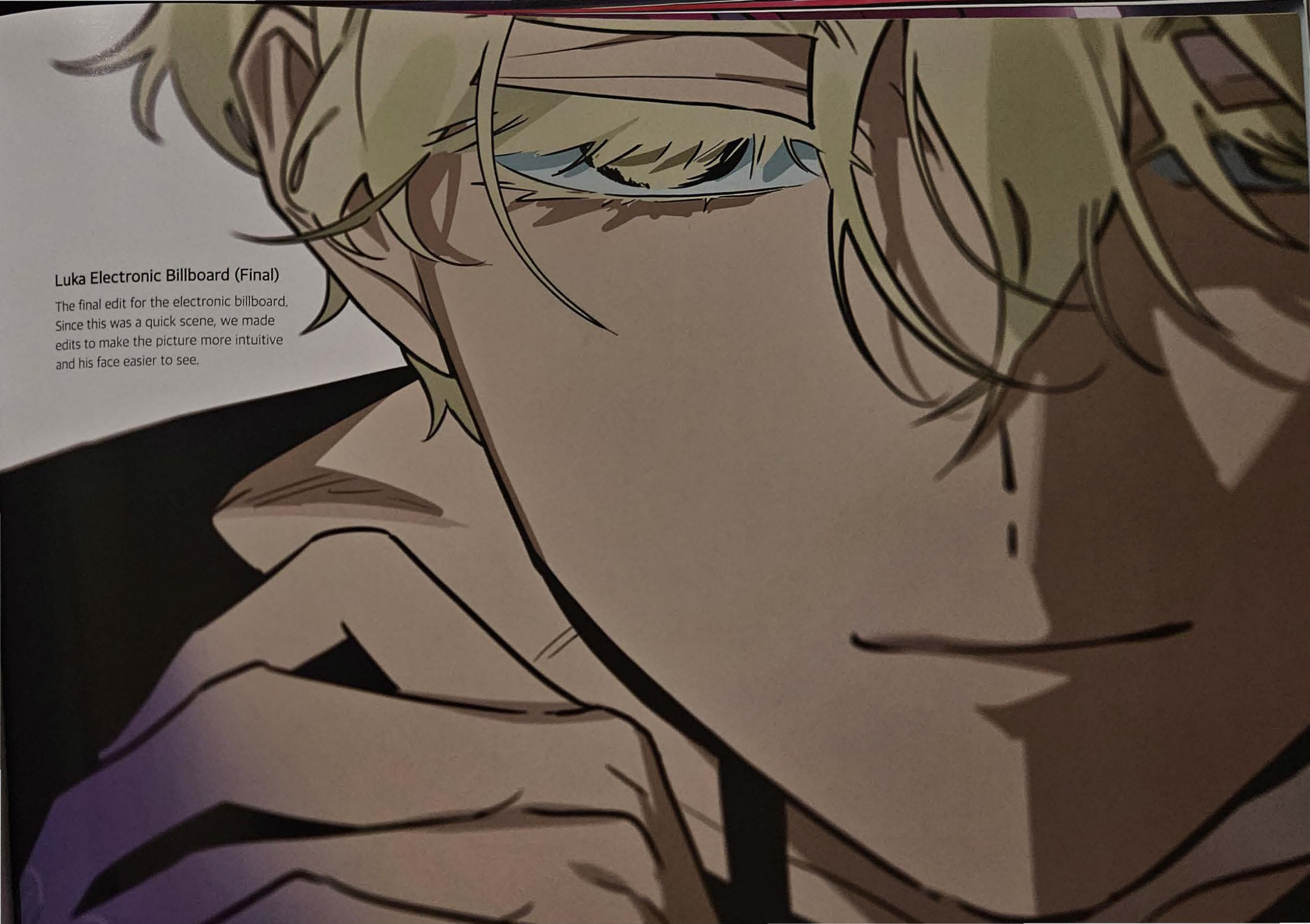
Luka Electronic Billboard Draft 1

This draft emphasizes Luka's eyes.
It looks beautiful, but it didn't show enough about the character and was rejected.



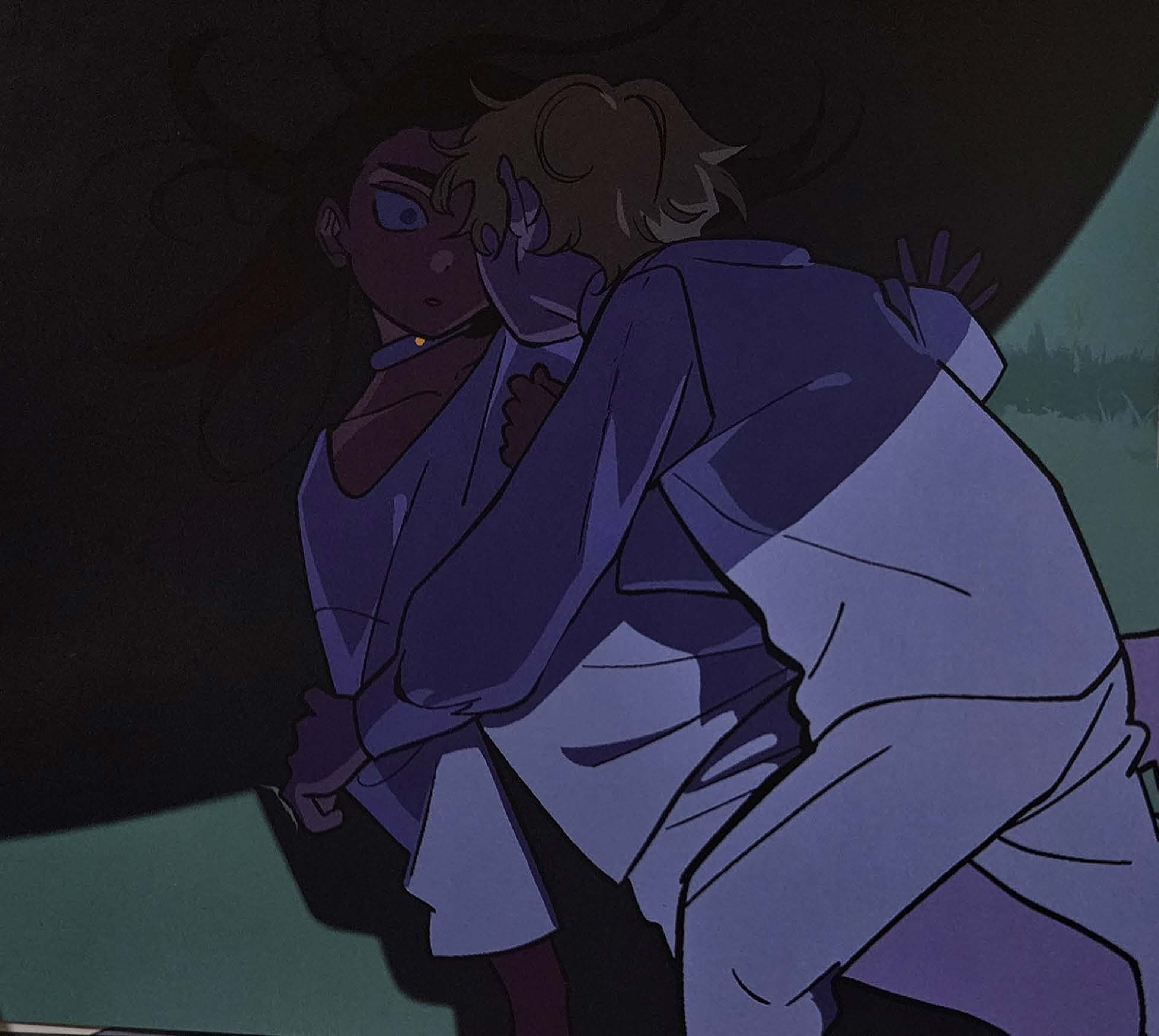
Luka Electronic Billboard Draft 2

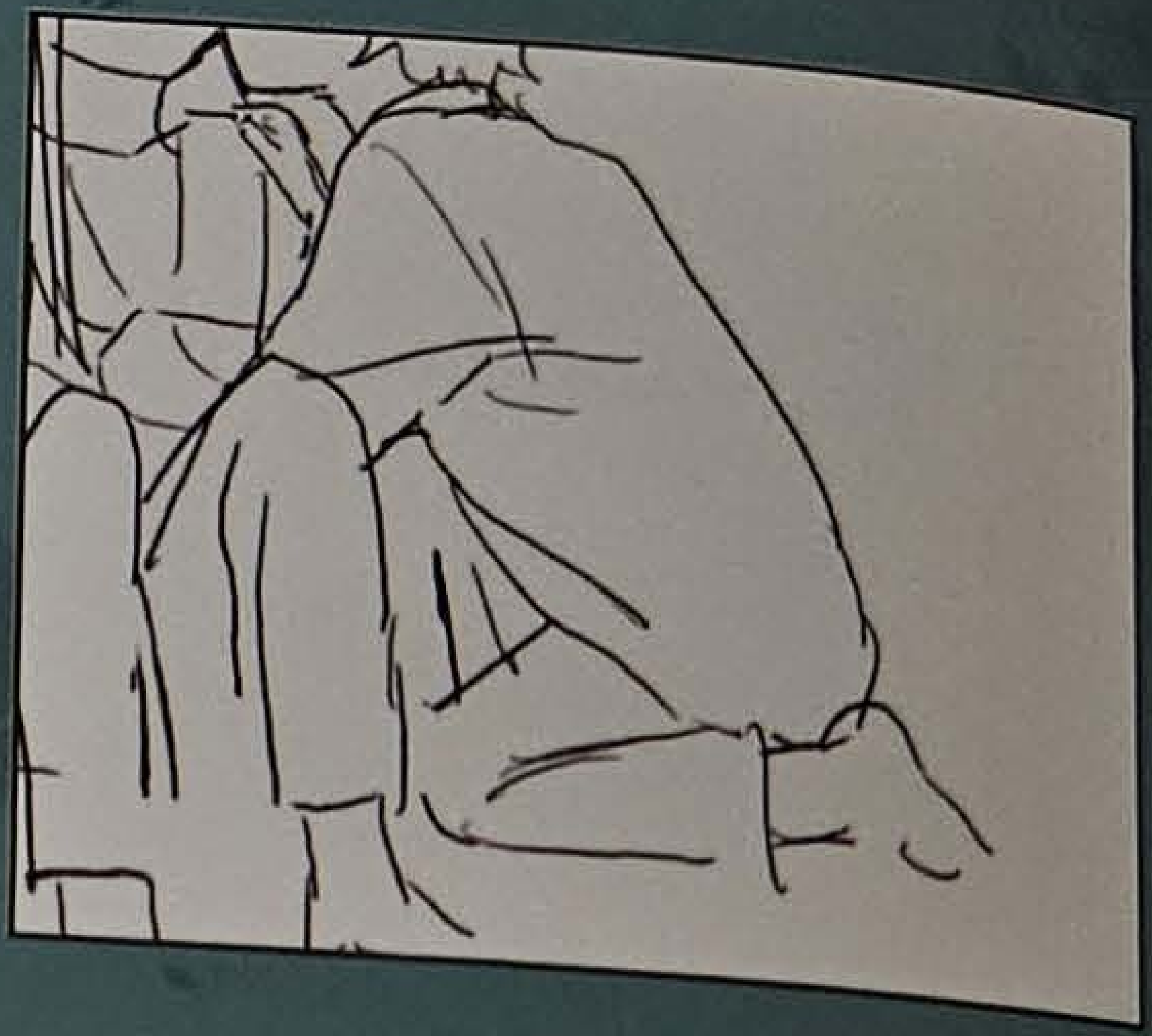
This draft shows more of the face.
We thought this was a good draft that highlighted his pale beauty.



Luka Electronic Billboard (Final)

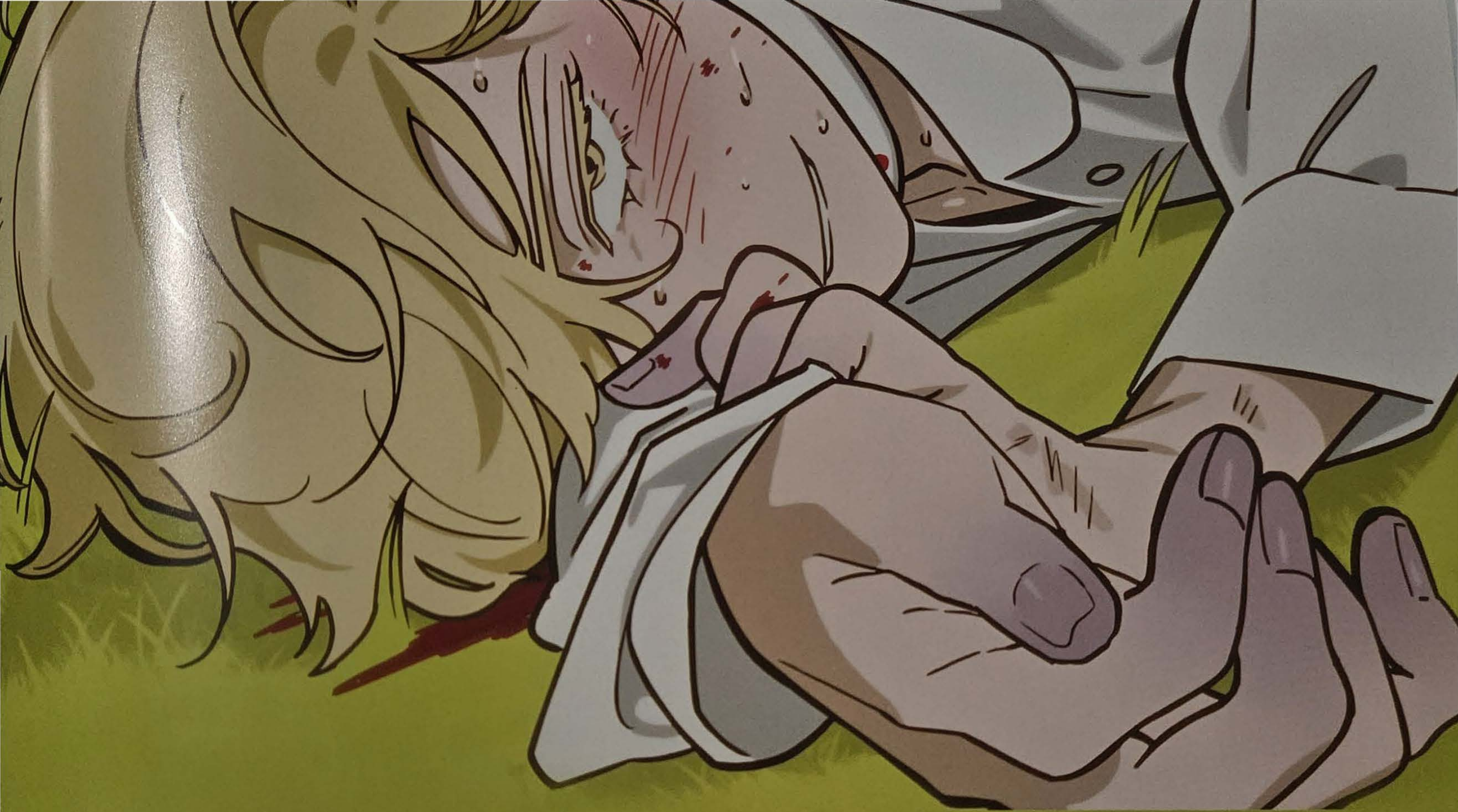
The final edit for the electronic billboard. Since this was a quick scene, we made edits to make the picture more intuitive and his face easier to see.



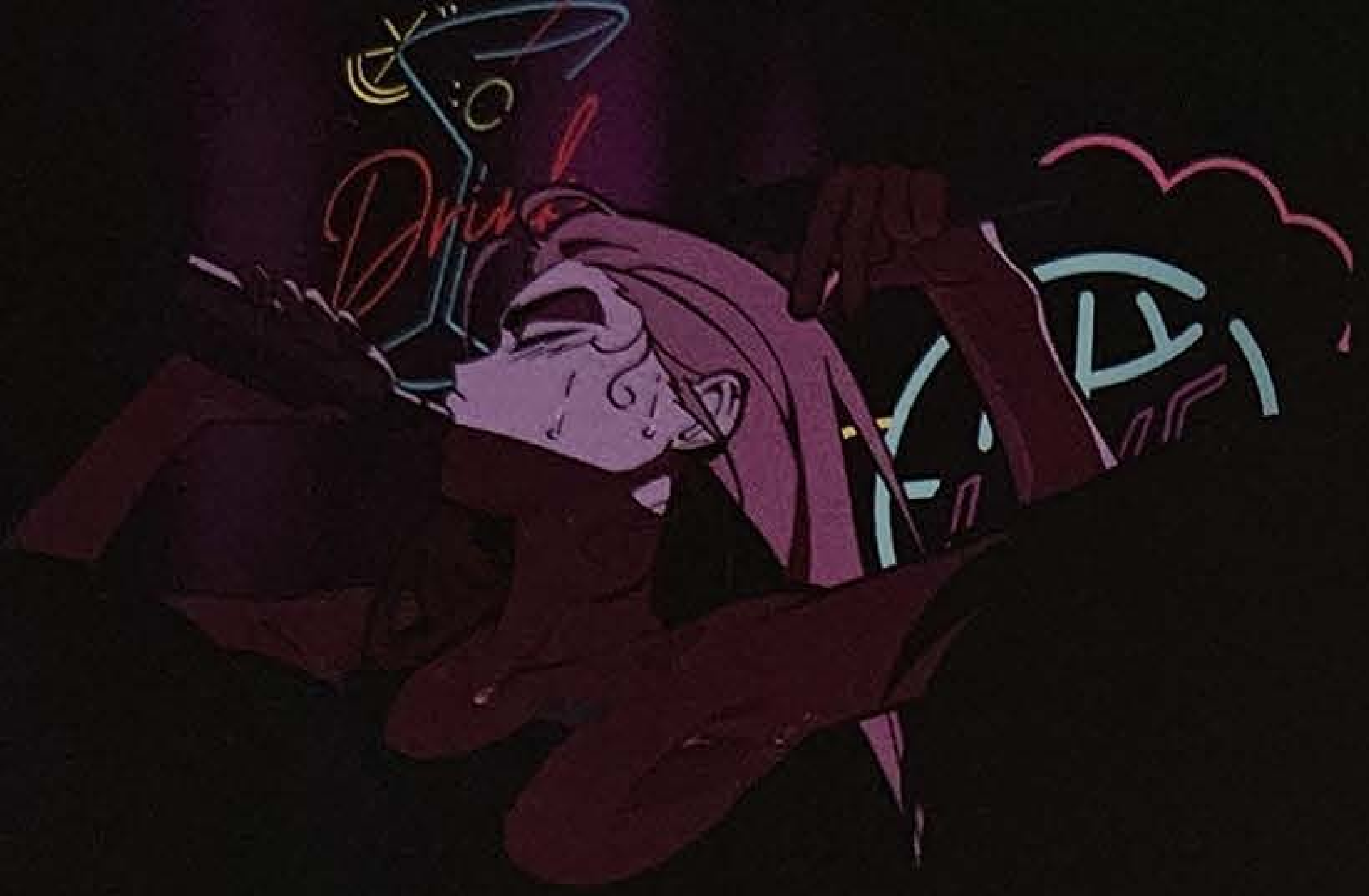


▲ BEFORE

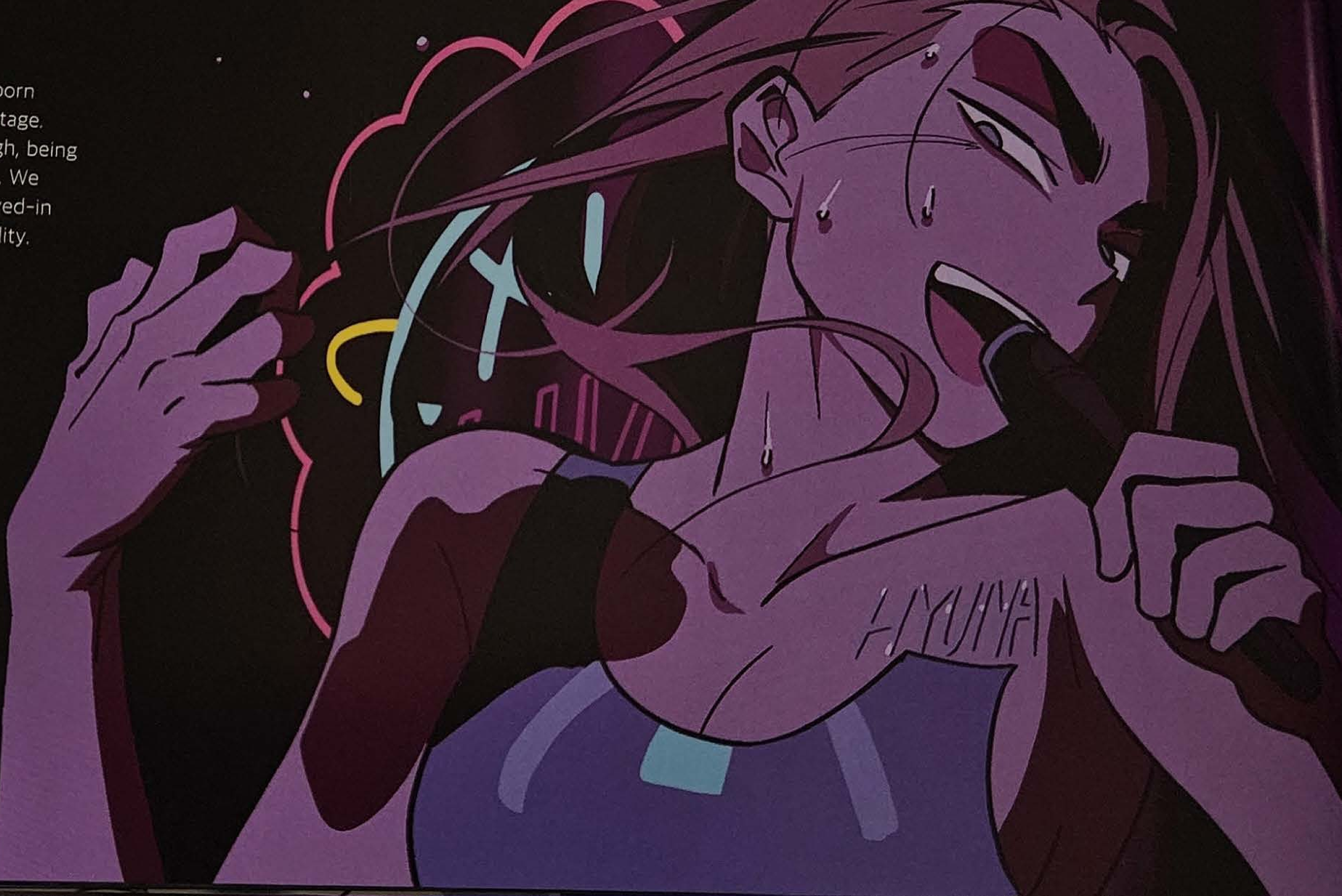
They were originally calmly sitting, but we wanted to show Luka's aggressive side and changed the scene.

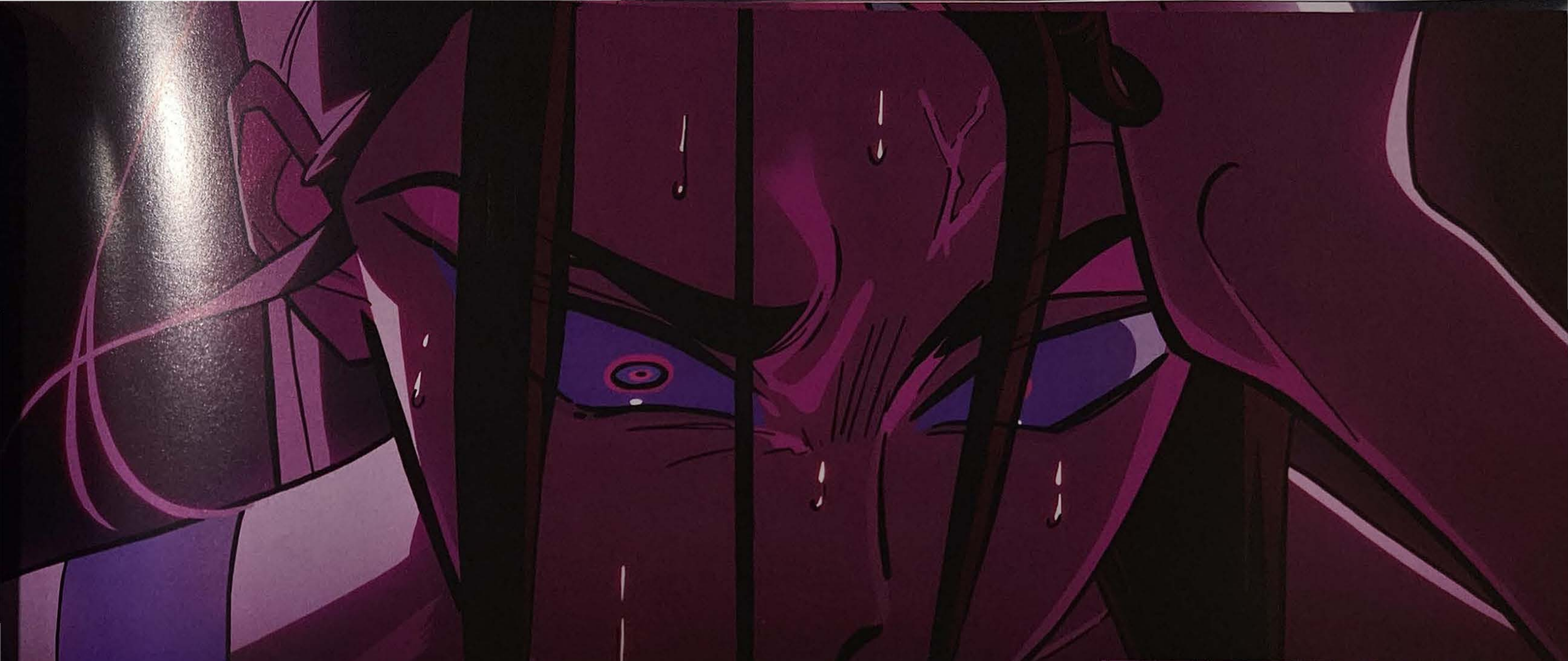


Luka's expression that is ingrained into Hyuna's trauma.
Even while covered in blood, he smiles as if in ecstasy.

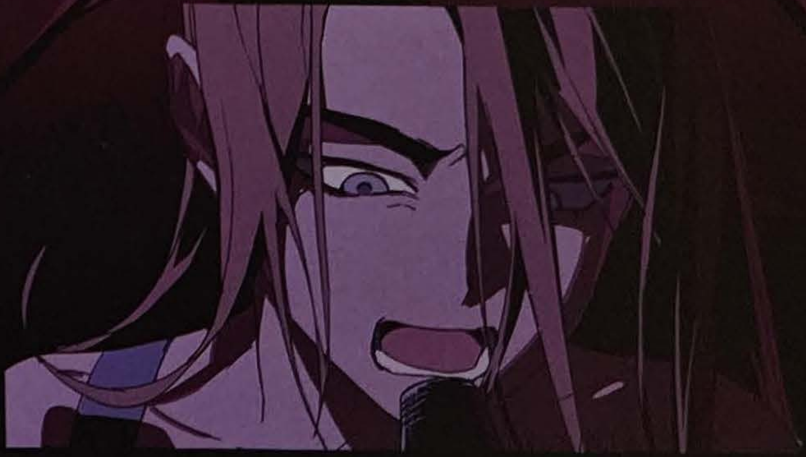


Unlike many others, Hyuna is a natural-born entertainer who simply enjoys being onstage. No matter the hardships she goes through, being onstage and singing give Hyuna strength. We wanted to make the background seem lived-in and real, so we made it look closer to reality.

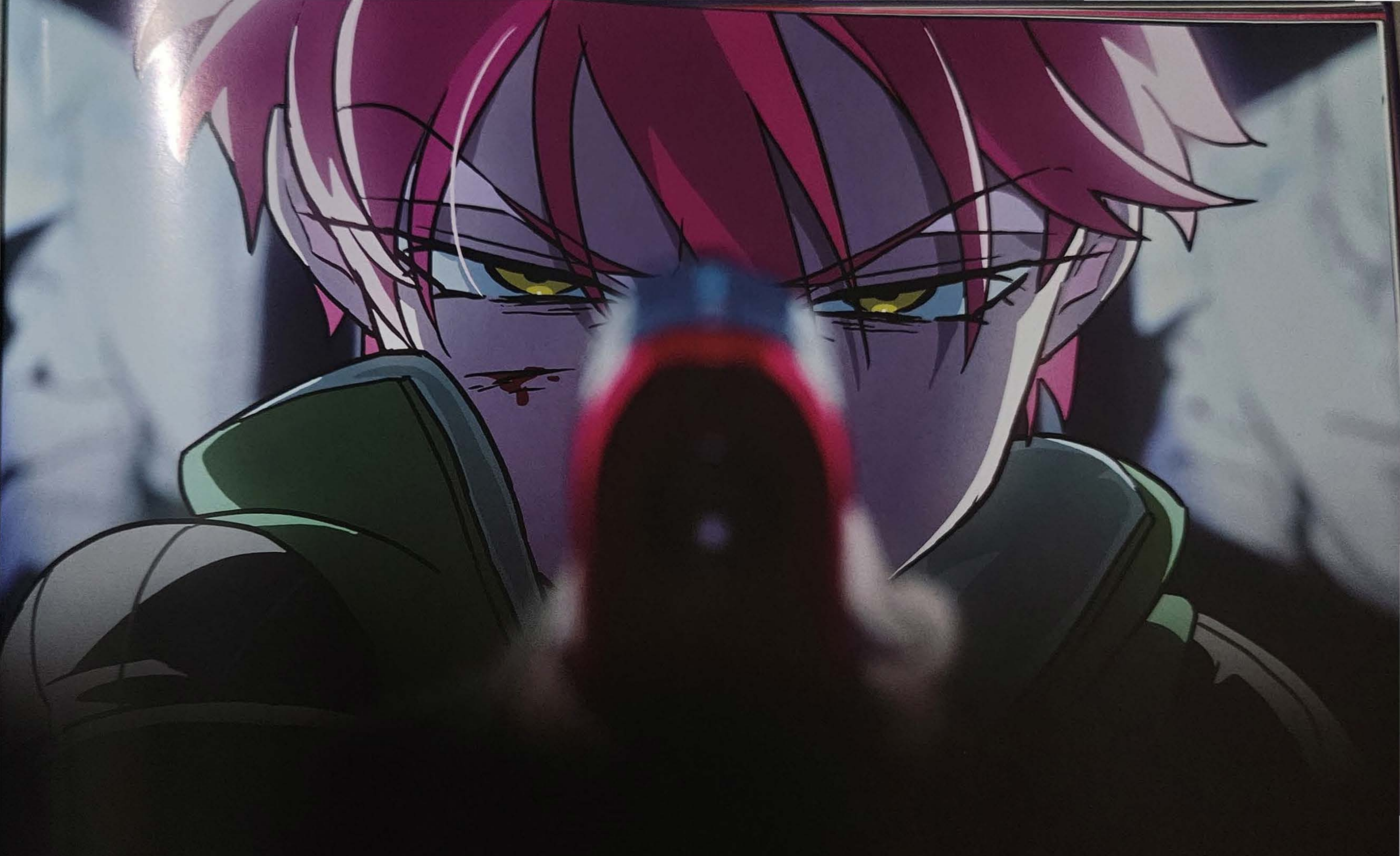




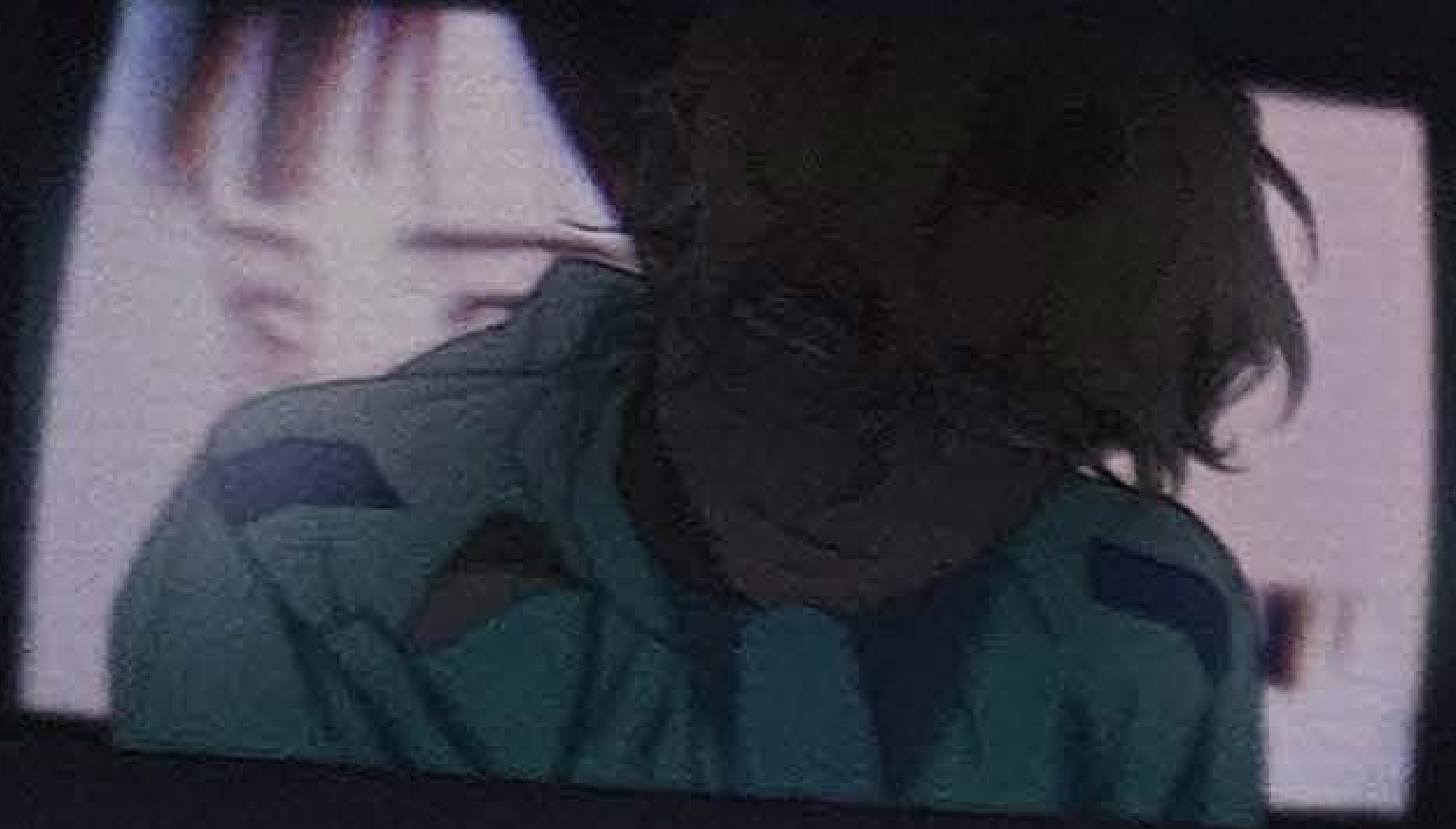
Hyuna loves singing, but it also makes her remember her painful past.
We zoomed in on Hyuna's face to show her panicking when she remembers Luka.

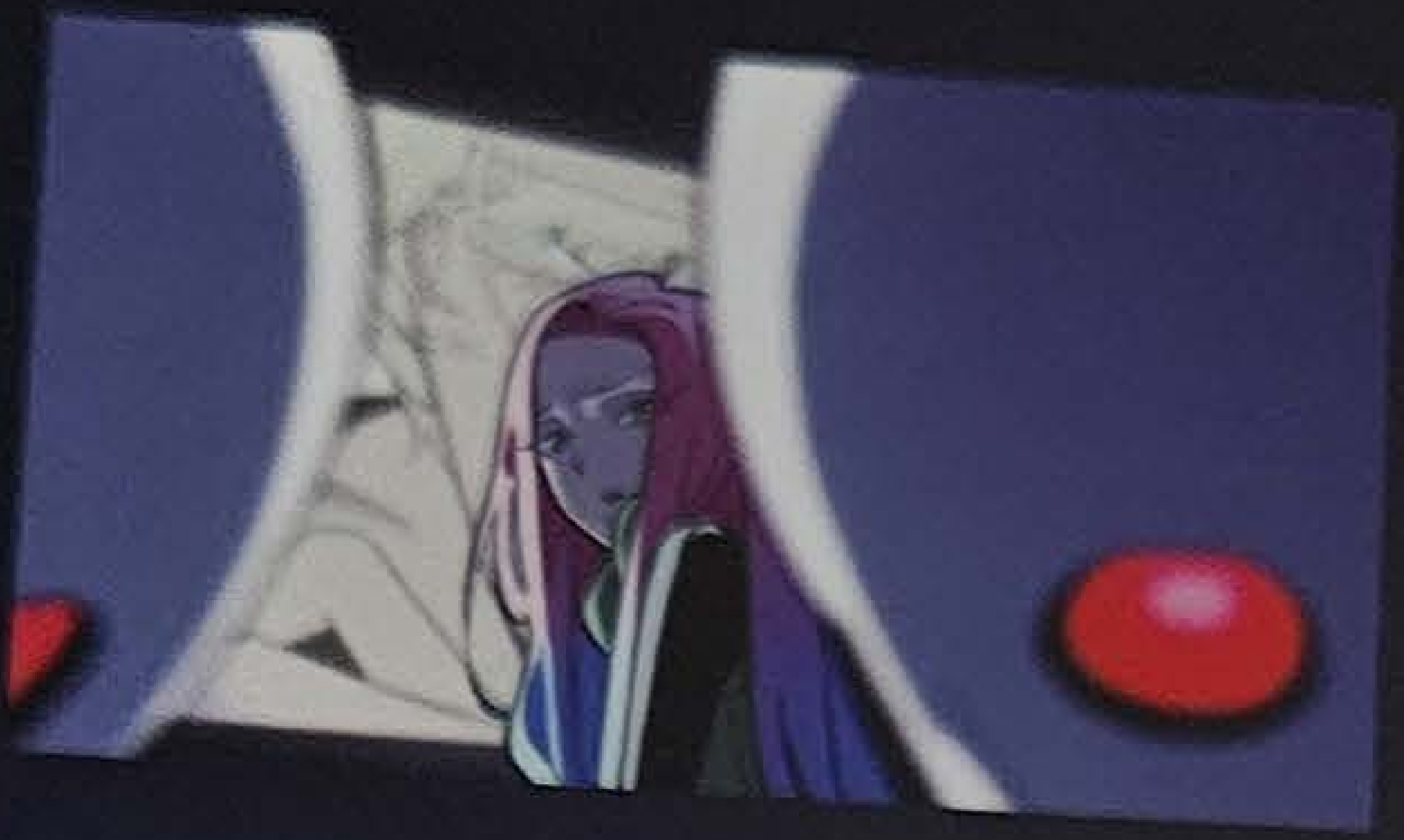


▲ BEFORE

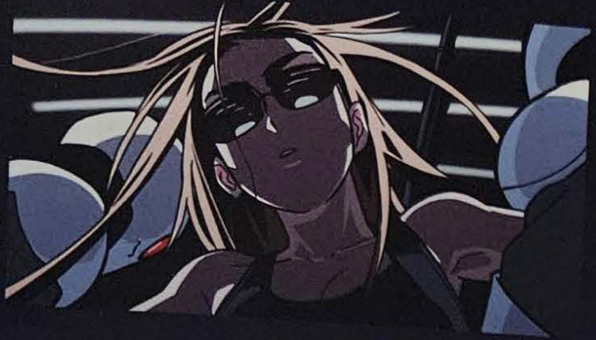


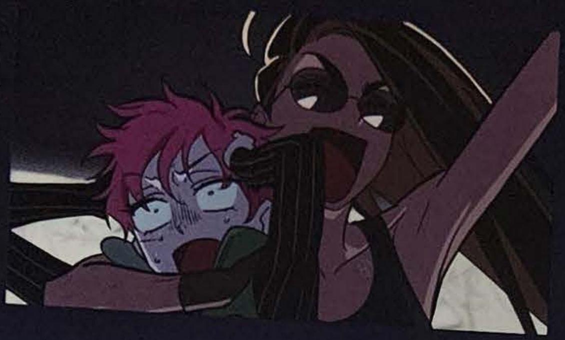
In a desperate situation, the closed-off Mizi breaks out of her shell in a spectacular way.
Her hair symbolized her regret for the past. After it is cut clean off, she starts to grow and move on.



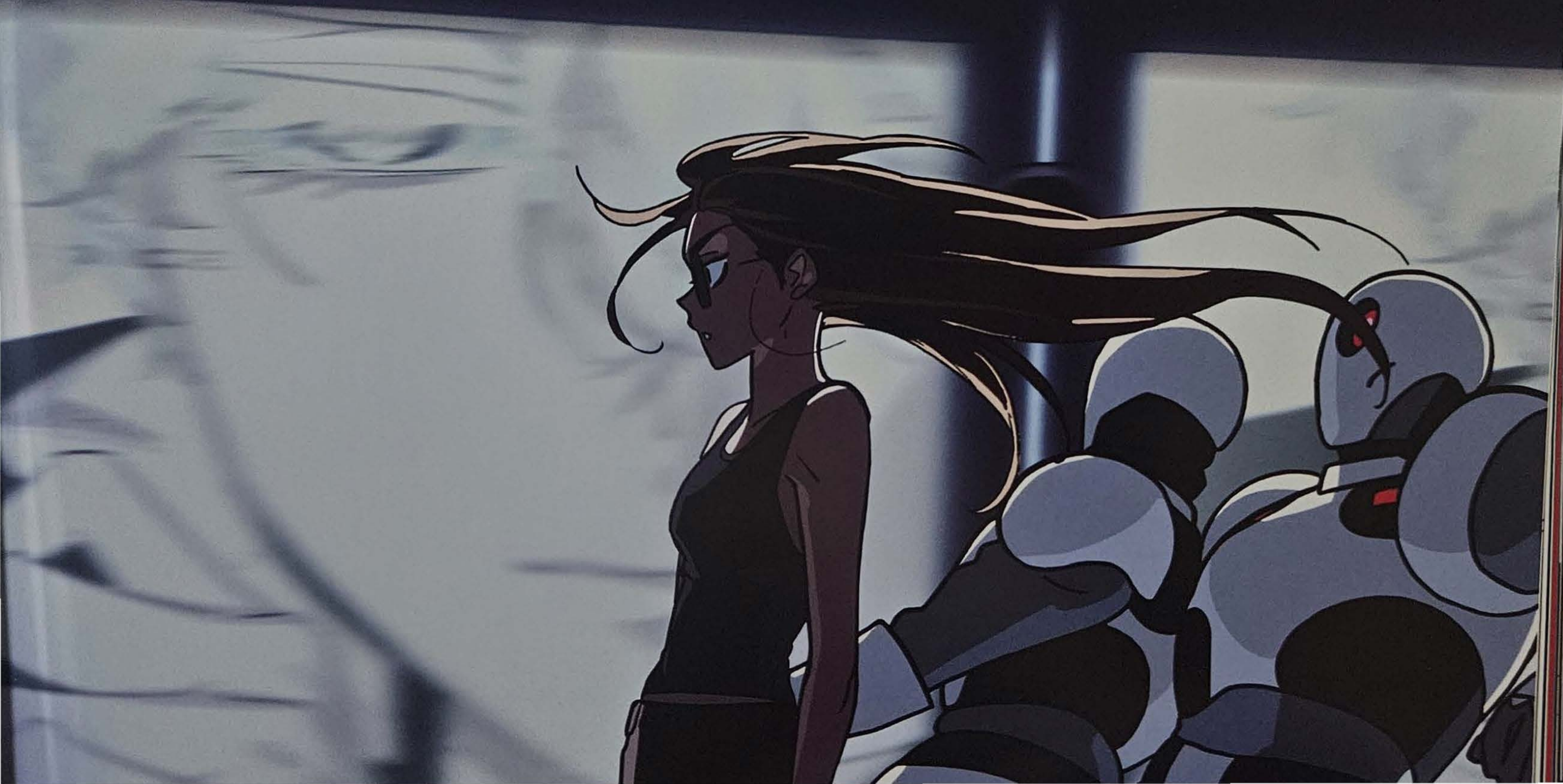


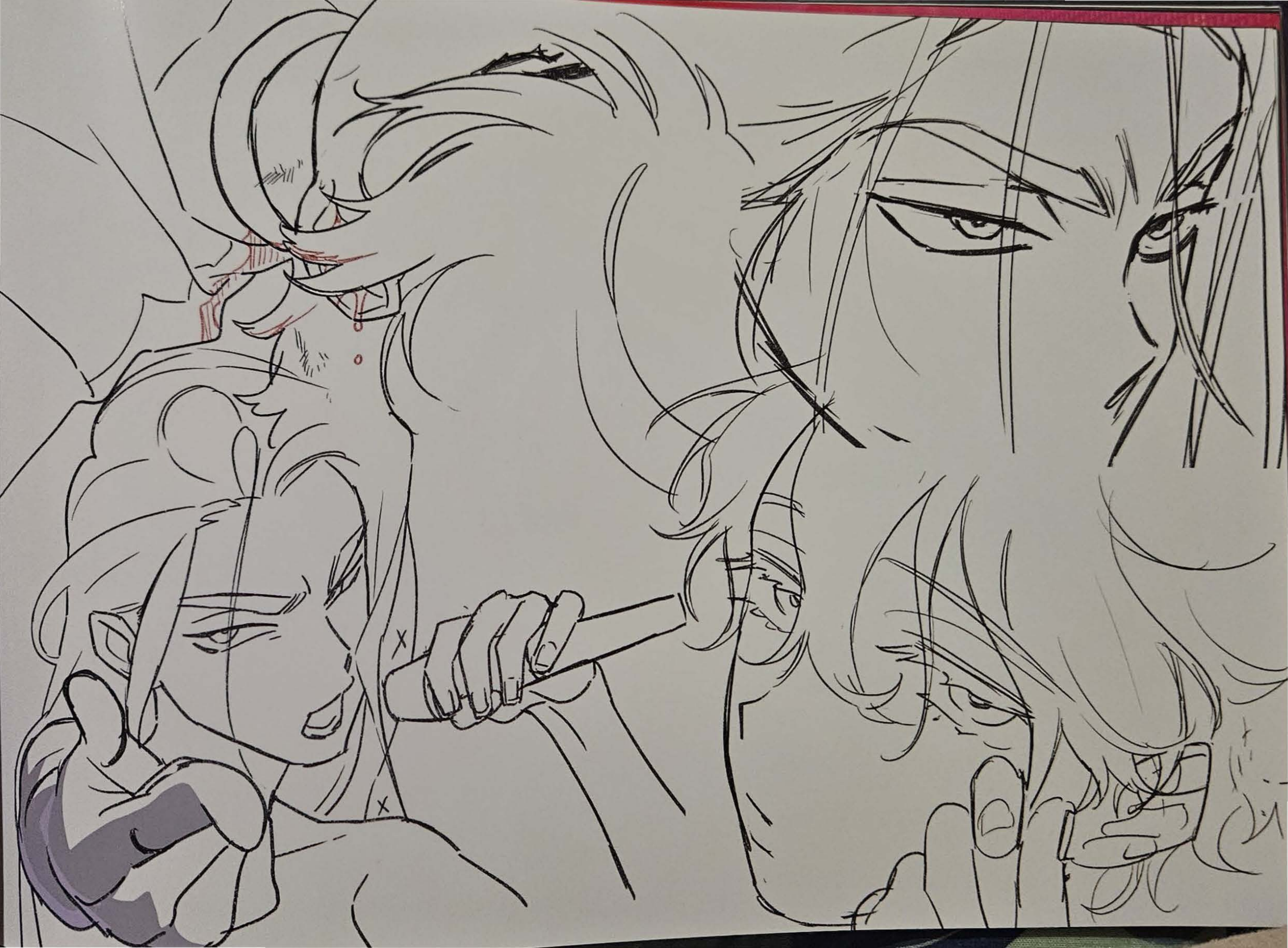
This is a great scene to watch alongside the movie theater scene from ROUND 5! In ROUND 5, Luka covered up the screen Mizi was watching. But in "ALL-IN," Mizi is standing in front of the screen with Luka on it. This symbolizes Mizi moving on from her trauma.





Throughout “ALL-IN,” Hyuna is always wearing sunglasses, representing the way she avoids her old traumas. After seeing Mizi’s growth, Hyuna finally faces the emotions she had been bottling up inside and moves forward together with Mizi.

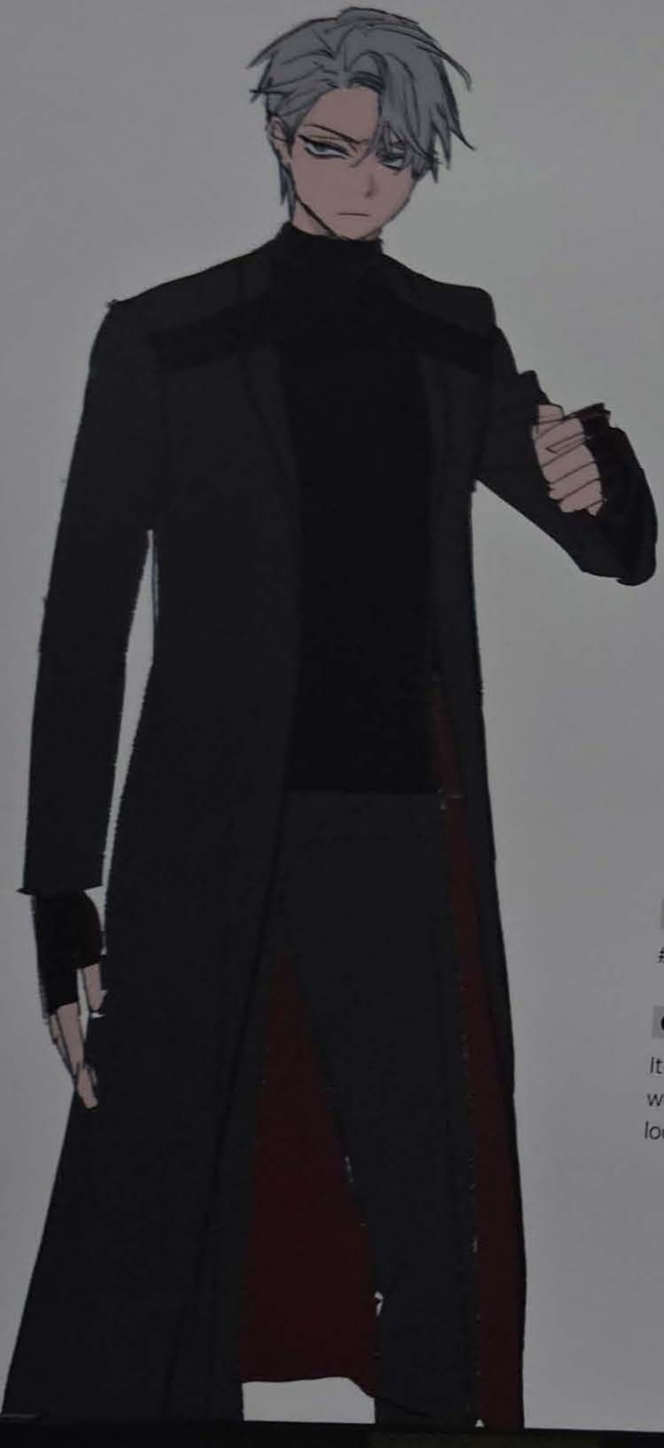


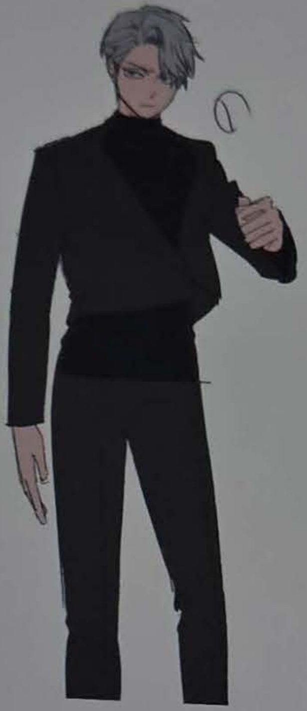


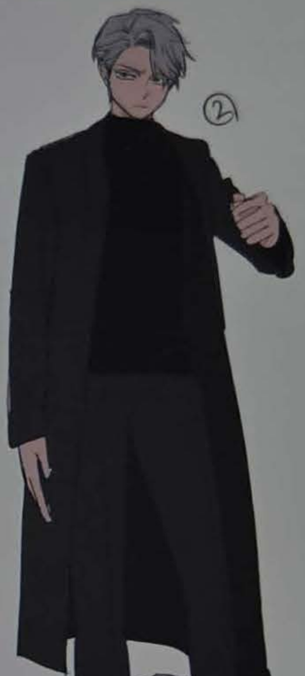
DIRECTOR COMMENTARY

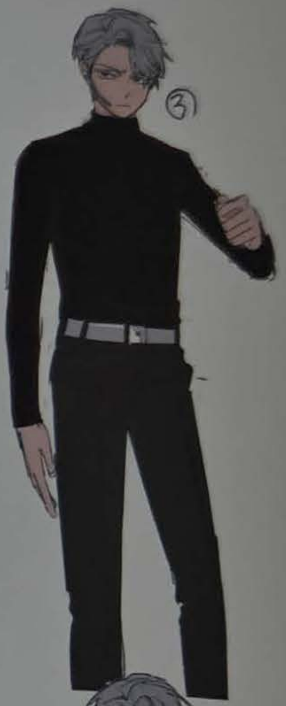
Ivan - Till

A one-sided affection can at times be violent, and persistent apathy can at times be cruel.
For these two who could not be honest with each other, the fault surely lies with both of them.
Neither could be the adult in the situation, and no matter how good their intentions were for each other, they do not get a happy ending.







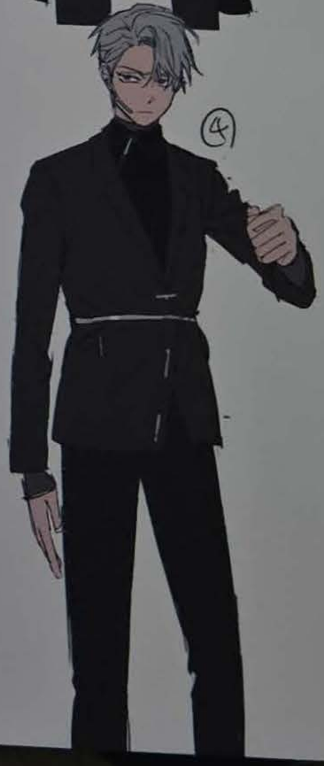


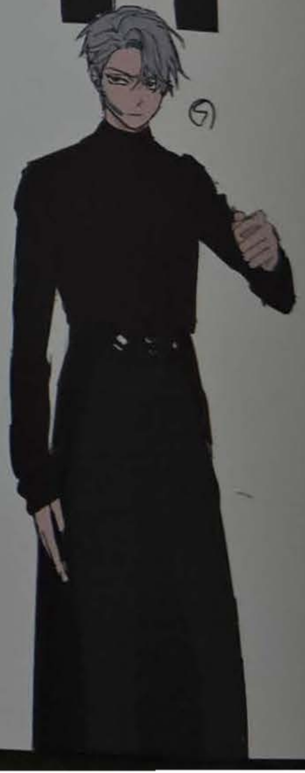
KEY_WORD

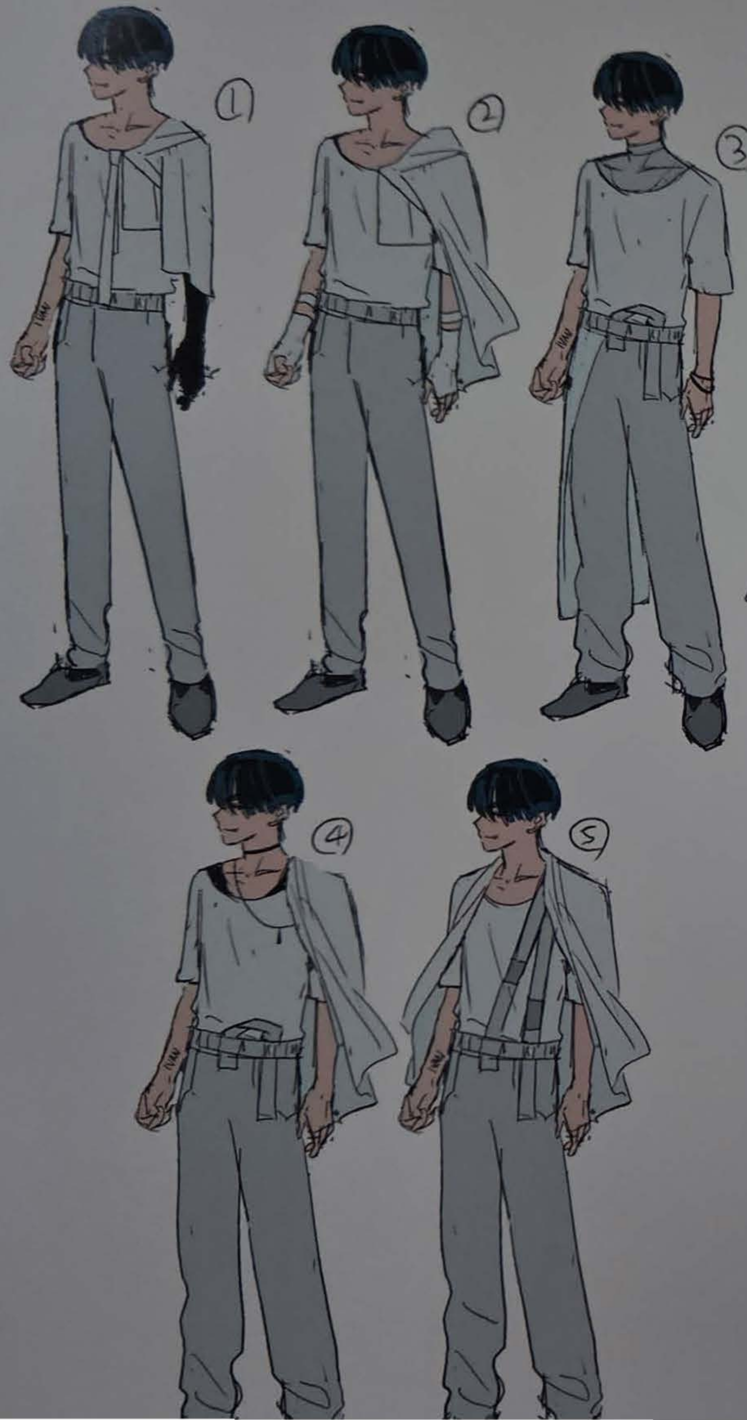
#SlickedHair #Formal #CleanDandy #Black

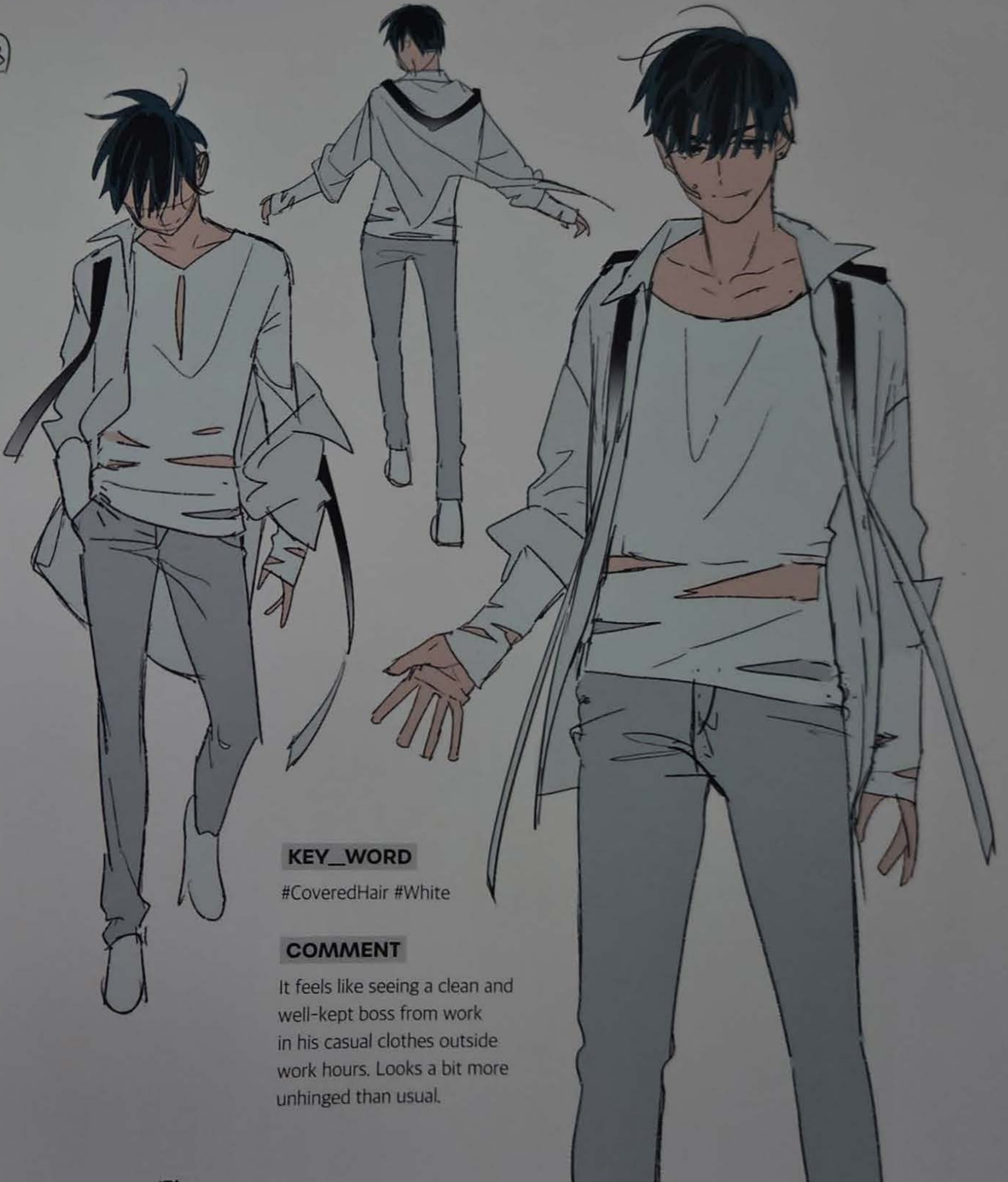
COMMENT

It feels like how a male friend who usually wears old and battered clothing suddenly looks cool when he dresses up.









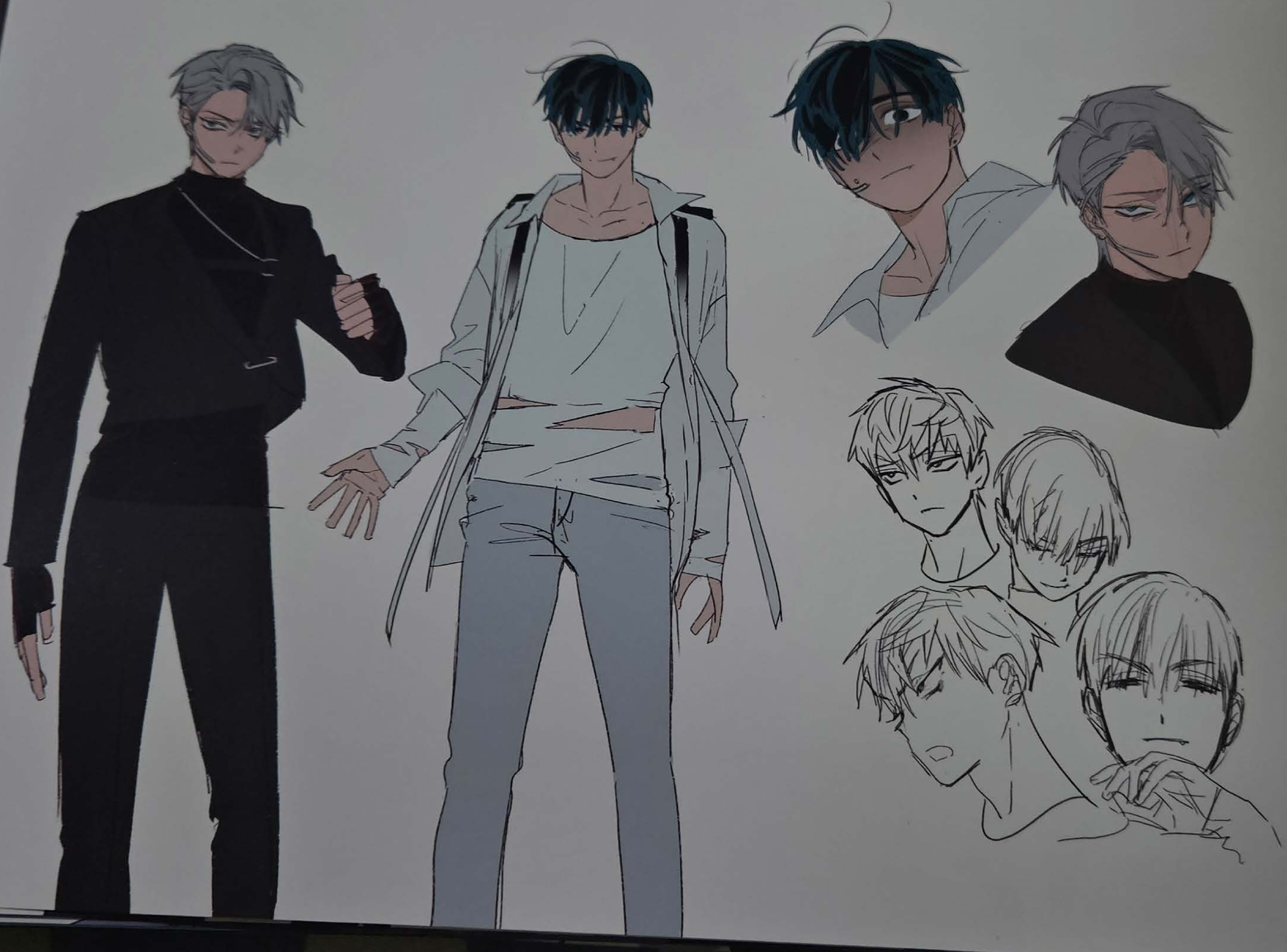
KEY_WORD

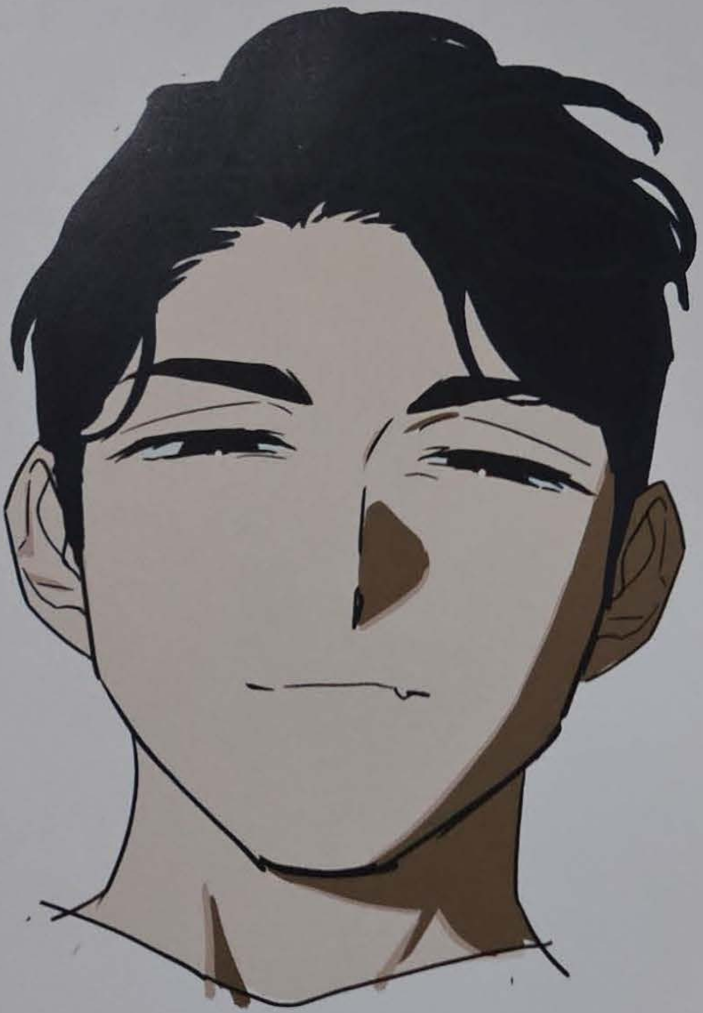
#CoveredHair #White

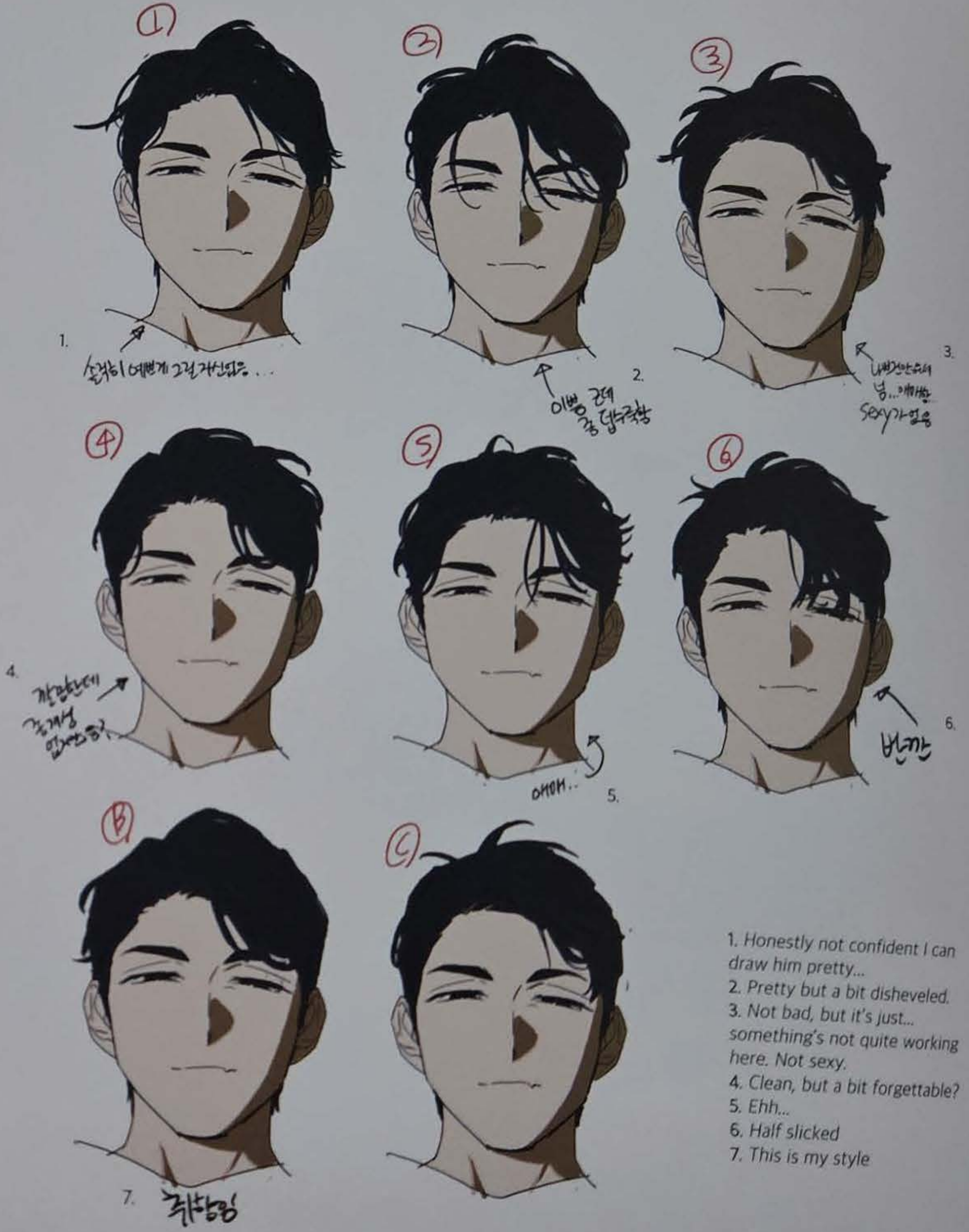
COMMENT

It feels like seeing a clean and well-kept boss from work in his casual clothes outside work hours. Looks a bit more unhinged than usual.

ROUND 6 | Outfit Draft

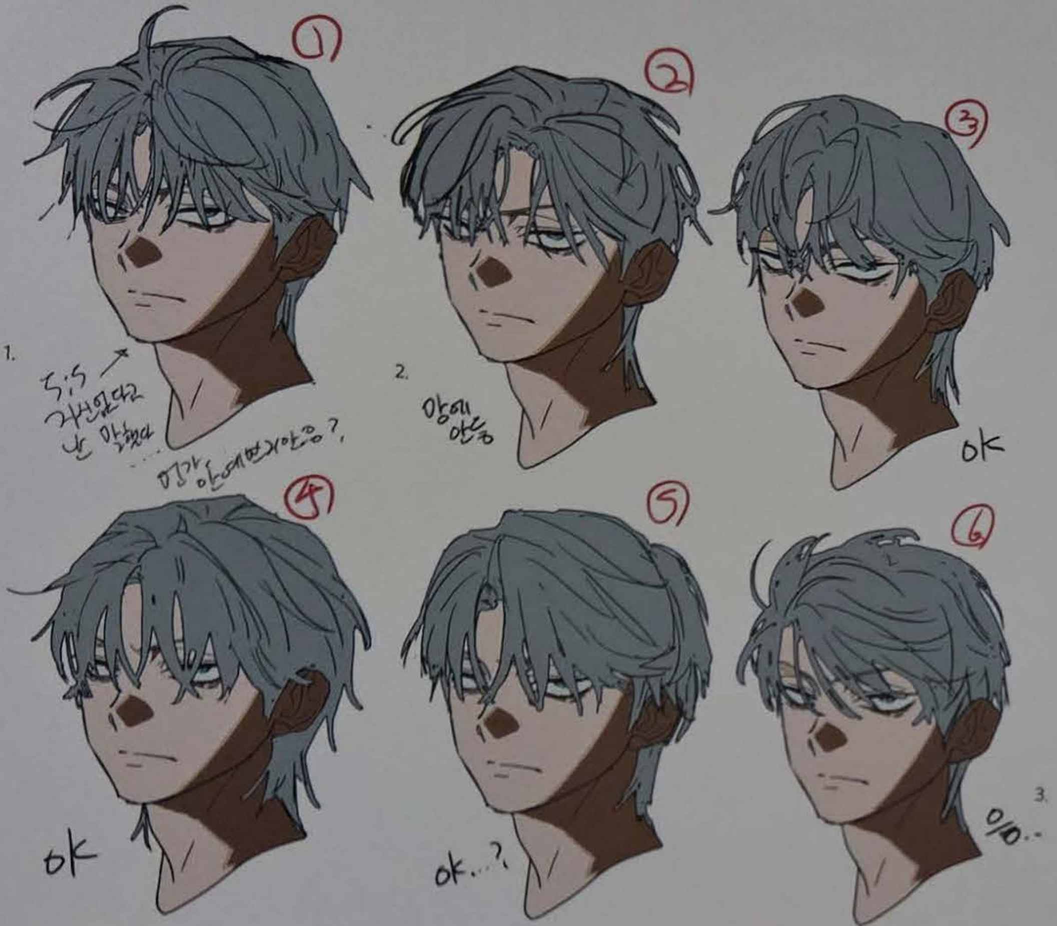


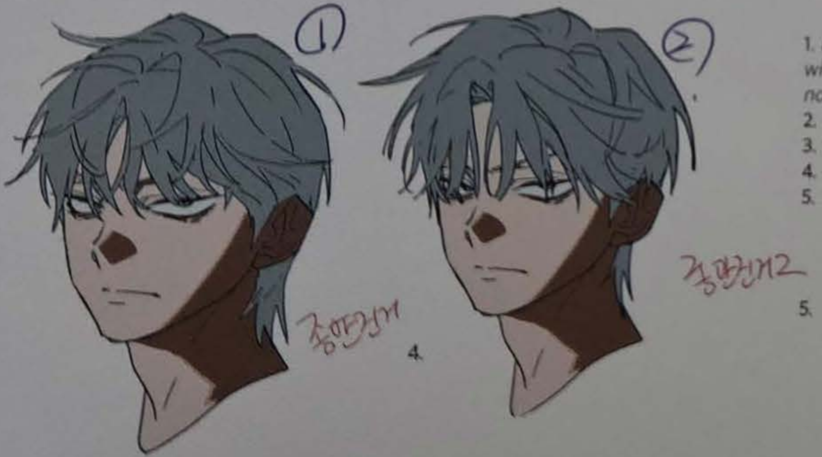



①
②
③
1.
솔직히 예쁘게 그릴 자신없음...
2.
이쁨 근데 좀 덥수룩함
3.
나쁘진 않은데 뭔... 애매함 sexy가 없음
④
⑤
⑥
4.
깔끔한데 좀 개성 없어요?
5.
애매..
6.
반깐
Ⓑ
Ⓒ
7.
취향임

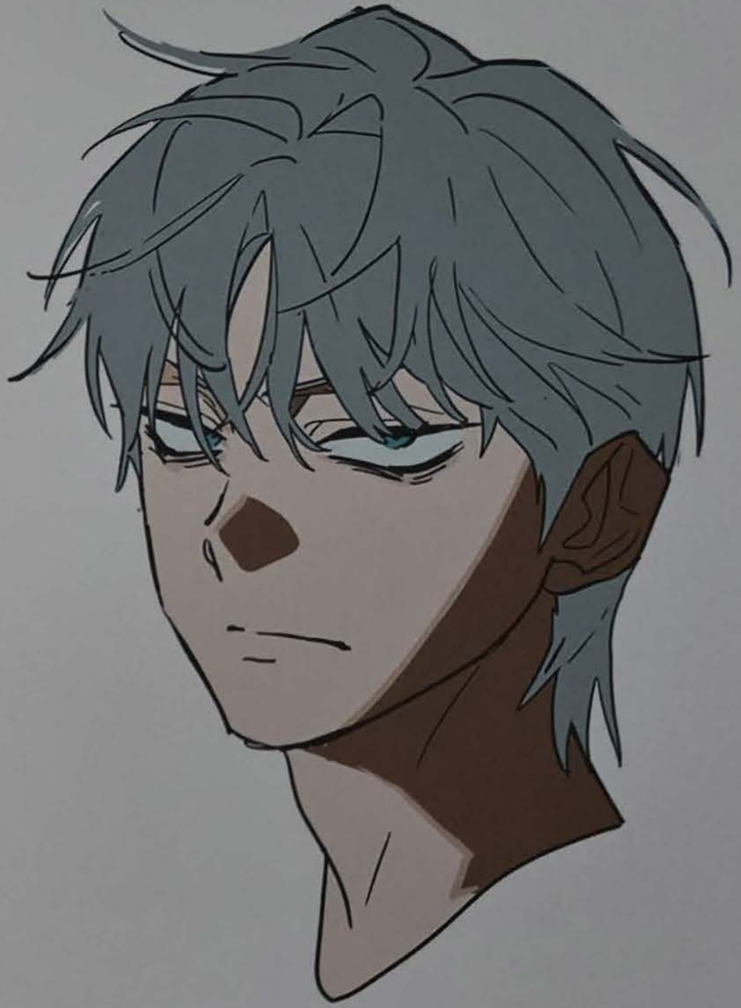
1. Honestly not confident I can draw him pretty...
2. Pretty but a bit disheveled.
3. Not bad, but it's just... something's not quite working here. Not sexy.
4. Clean, but a bit forgettable?
5. Ehh...
6. Half slicked
7. This is my style

✧ Slicked-back hair was difficult for the entire team to work with, but since it was vital to this episode, we made multiple drafts. His hair needed to look like it was meticulously styled as to not look tacky, and we tried find a hairstyle that was completely different from ROUND 3 but didn't look out of place for Ivan.

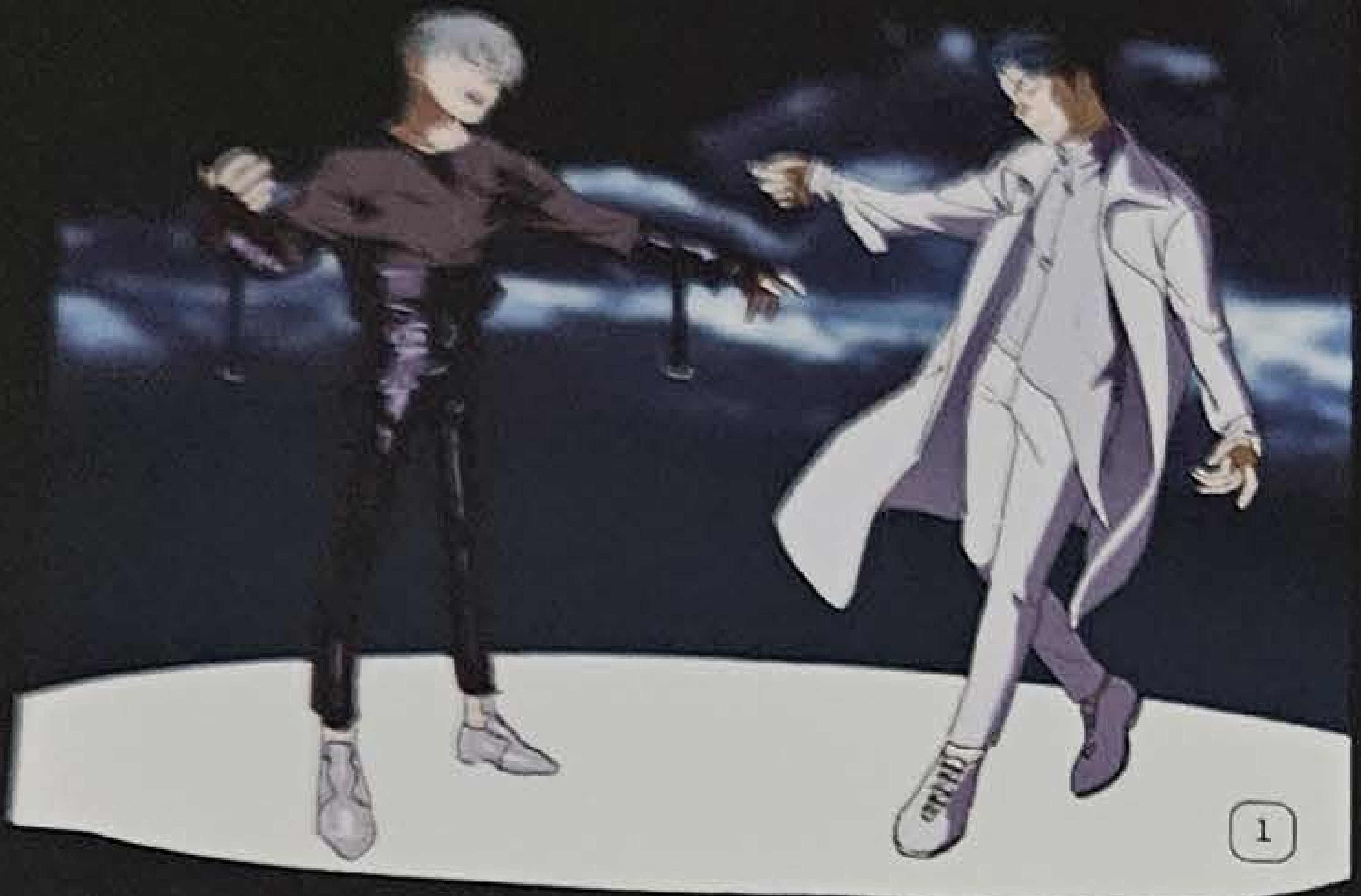

①
②
③
1.
5:5
자신없다고
난 말했다......
영 안예뻐지않음?
2.
맘에 안듦
ok
④
⑤
⑥
ok
ok...?
음..
3.


①
②
좀만진거
4.
좀만진거2
5.

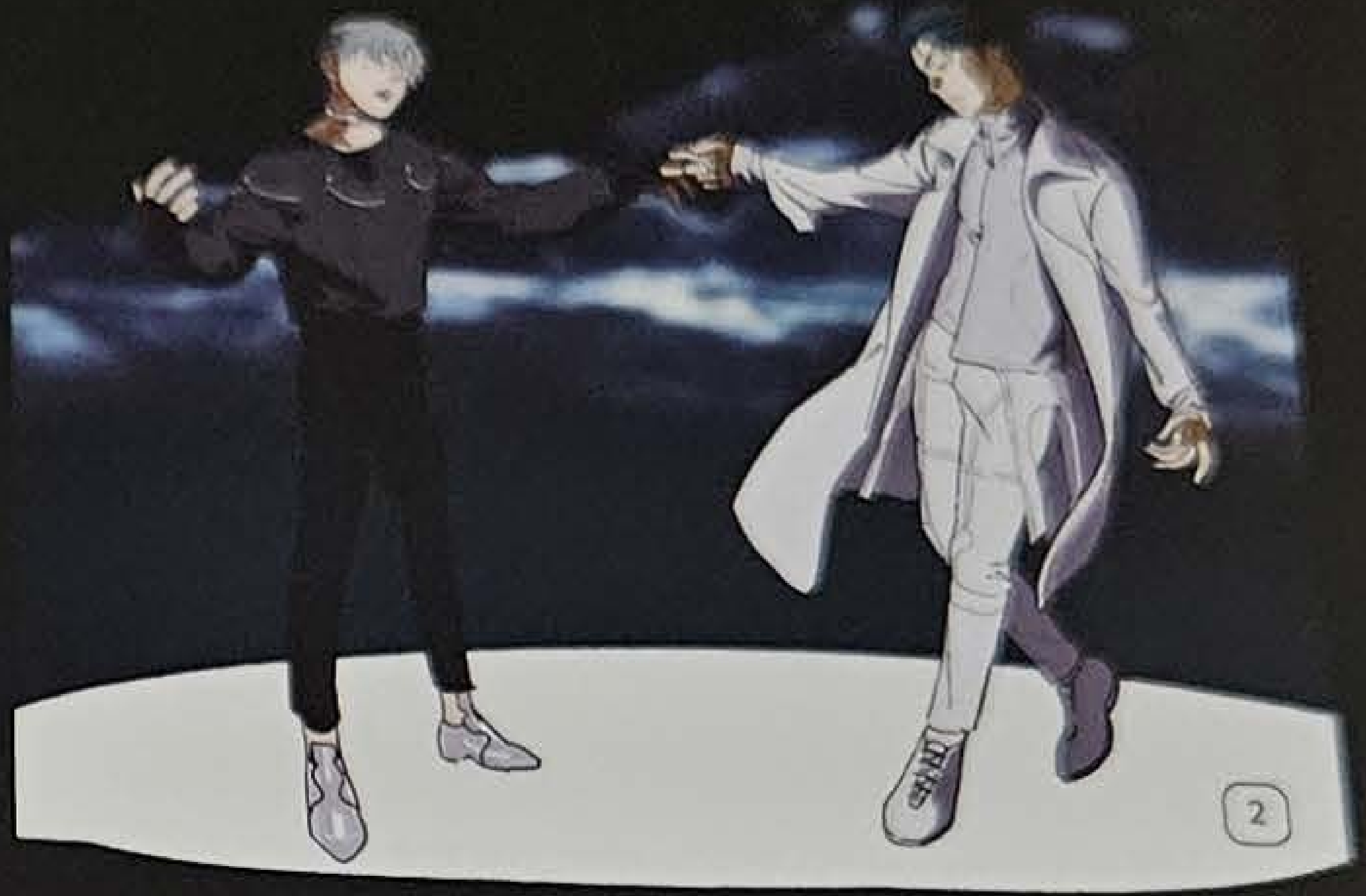
1. *I said I'm not confident with 5:5 split hair... isn't it not pretty?*
2. *Don't like it*
3. *Hm...*
4. *Touched up a bit*
5. *Touched up a bit 2*



- His hair was styled to look more calm and muted than before. We needed to emphasize his sharp features while also showing his melancholic demeanor. By this point, Till was supposed to have become more obedient toward Segyein.



1



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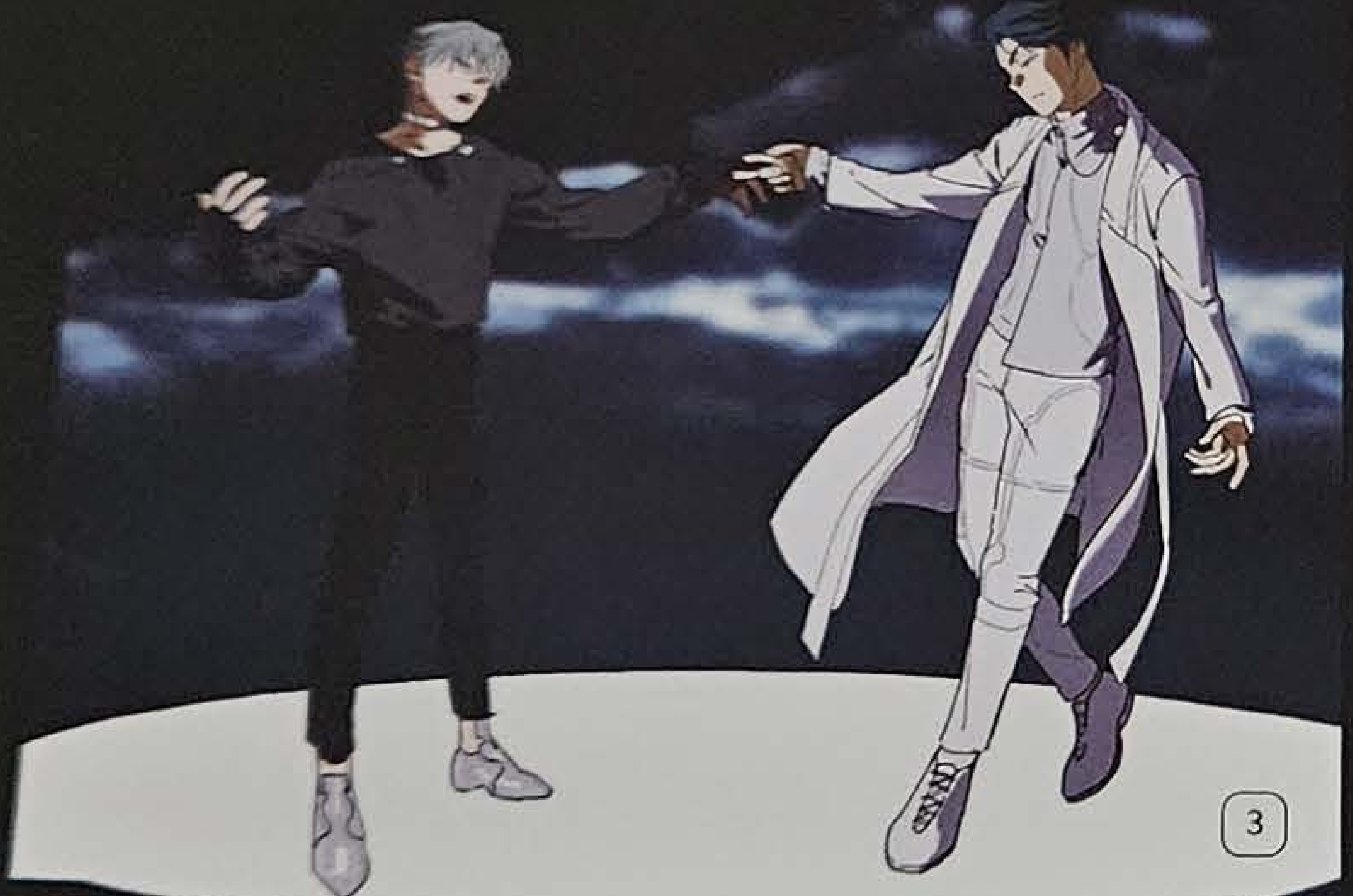

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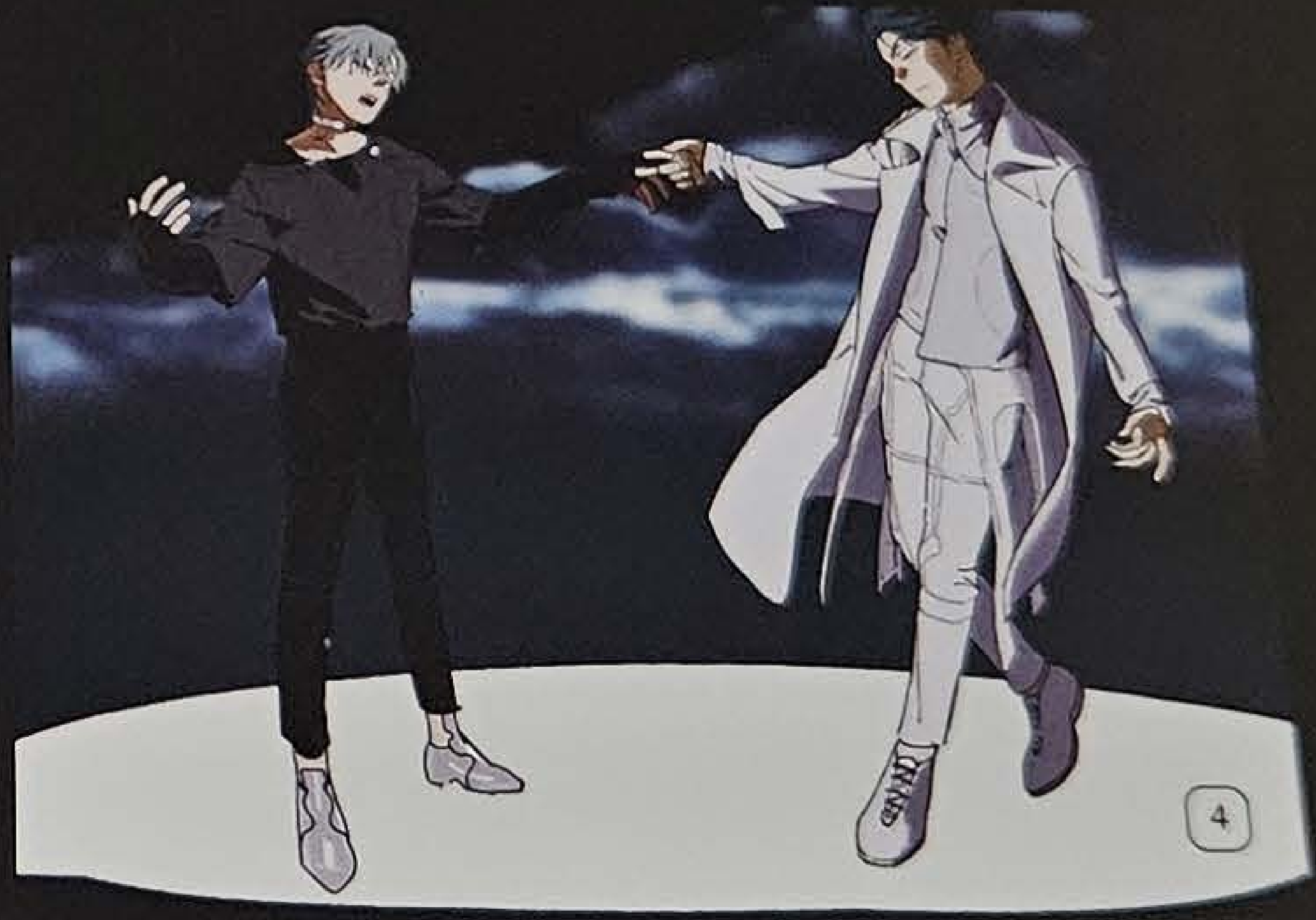
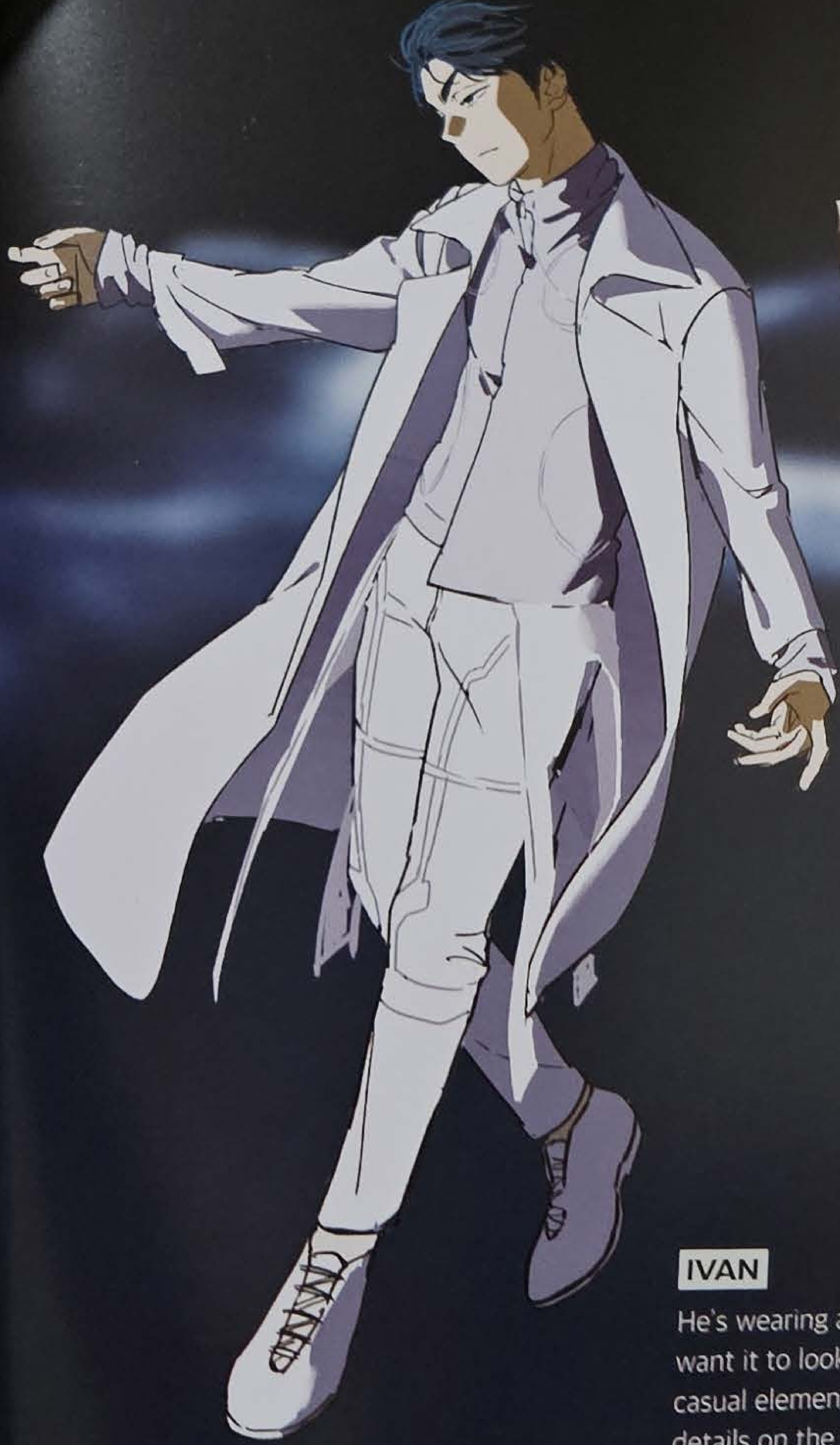


4

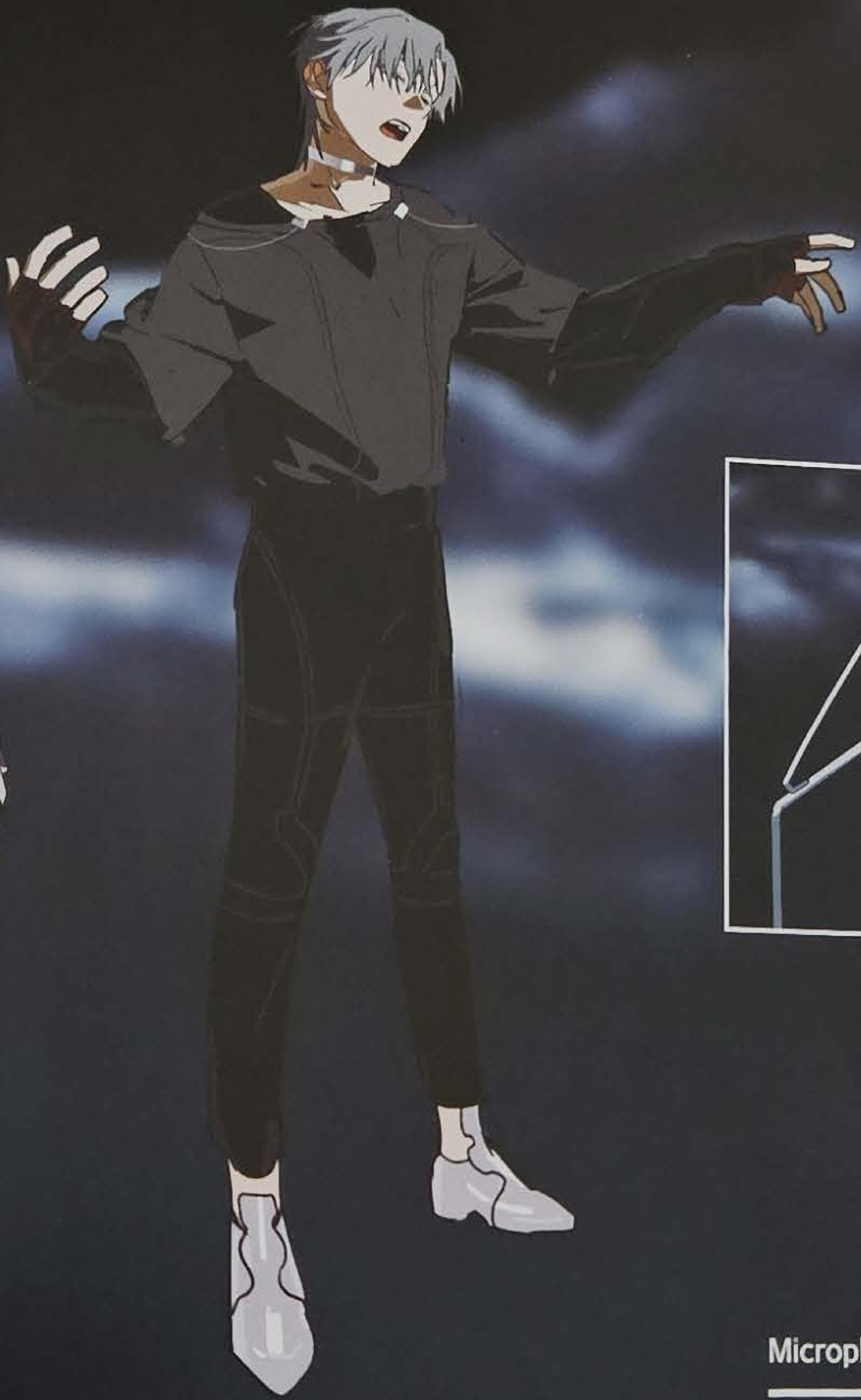
- *We wanted to emphasize Ivan and Till's opposite styles, but we also needed to keep the delicate balance of showing off both their unique designs while also making sure one doesn't pop more than the other. Since the upper halves of their bodies are shown quite frequently in ROUND 6, we loaded lot of details onto the top half of their outfits, including mysterious circles that added a sci-fi touch to their clothes.*

ROUND 6 | Stage Outfit Draft



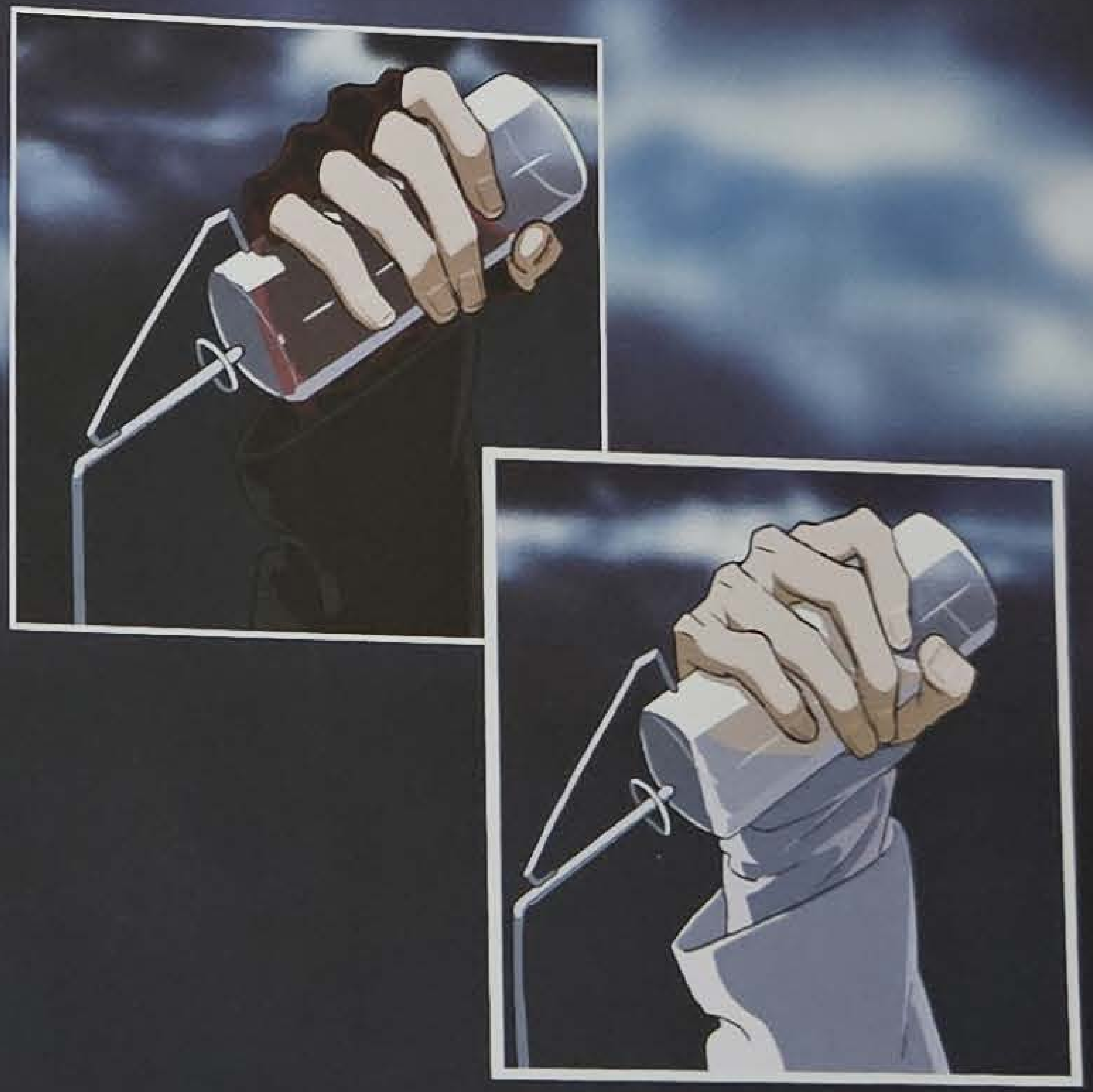
IVAN

He's wearing an all-white formal coat, but we didn't want it to look too stuffy so we added some sporty and casual elements to his design. We put the complicated details on the inside while keeping the coat itself simple, therefore keeping the design balanced.



TILL

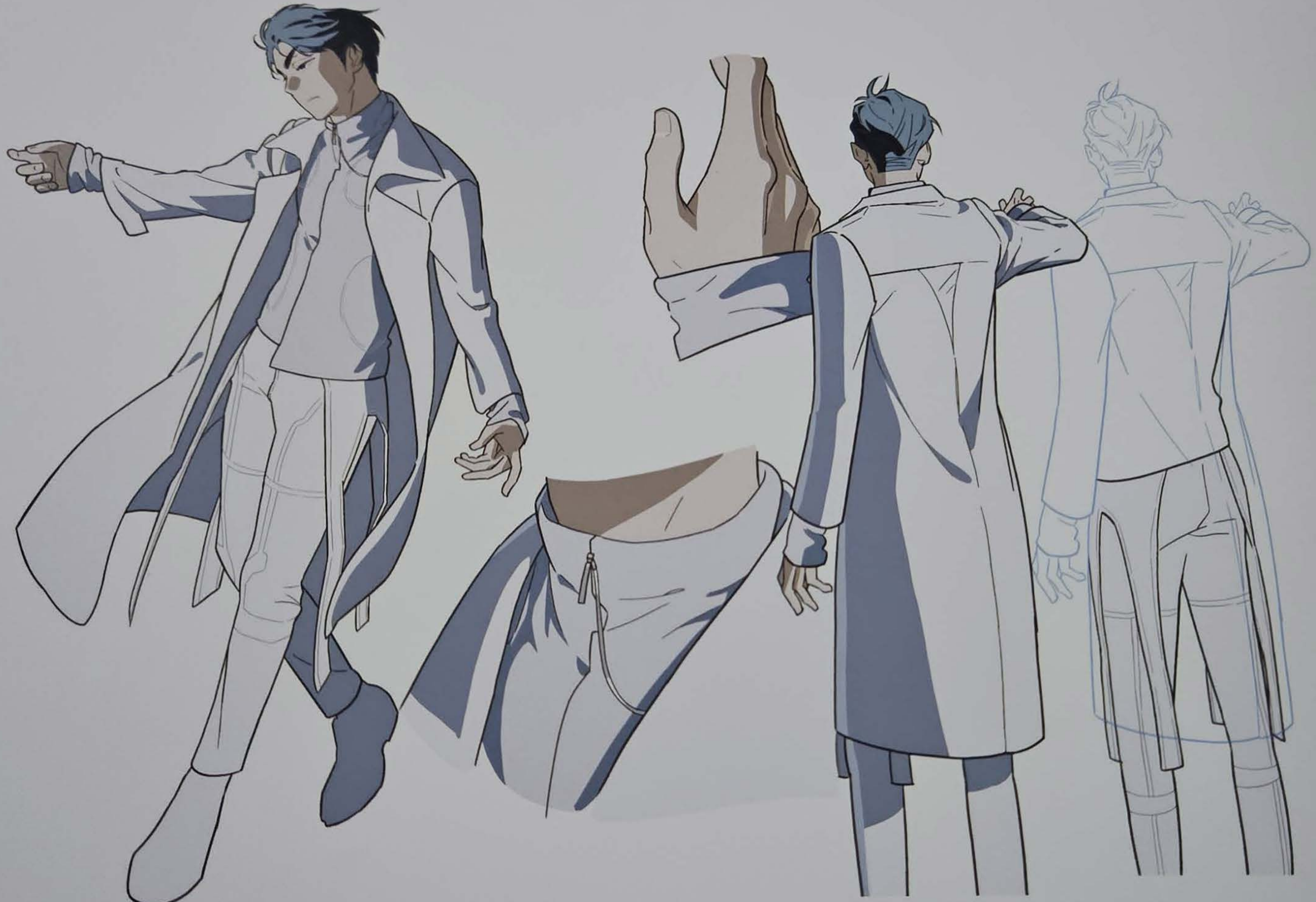
His clothes are all black, but we designed it so they don't look too dark. We also put a lot of different materials into his outfit (velvet, cotton, leather, etc.) so it didn't look boring and added metal accessories to match Ivan.

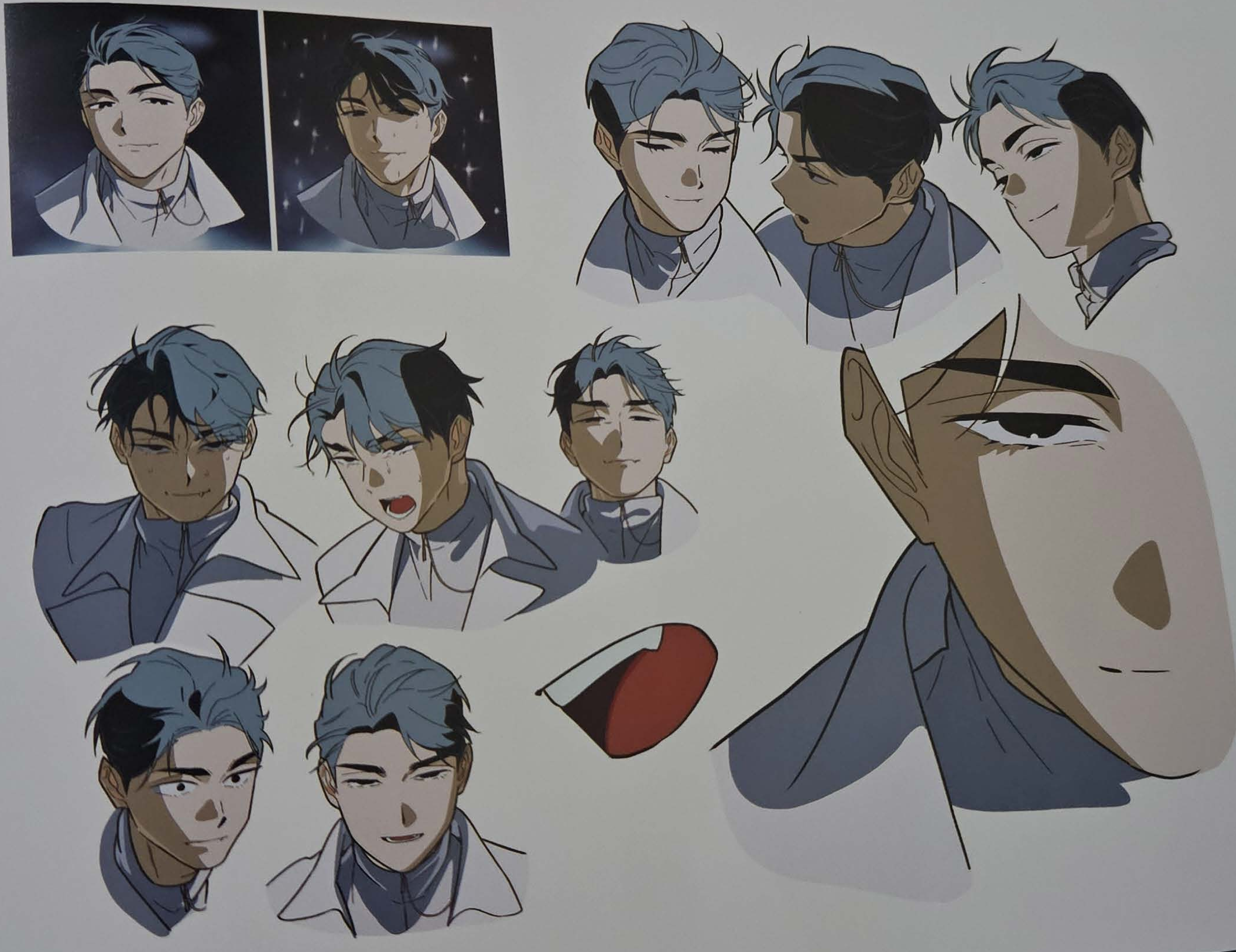


Microphone Design

We've always wanted to use these transparent sci-fi microphones but couldn't due to problems in production. As the production team's skills improved, we were finally able to implement the transparent mics! It felt like the range of our visuals had gotten wider, so we were very satisfied.

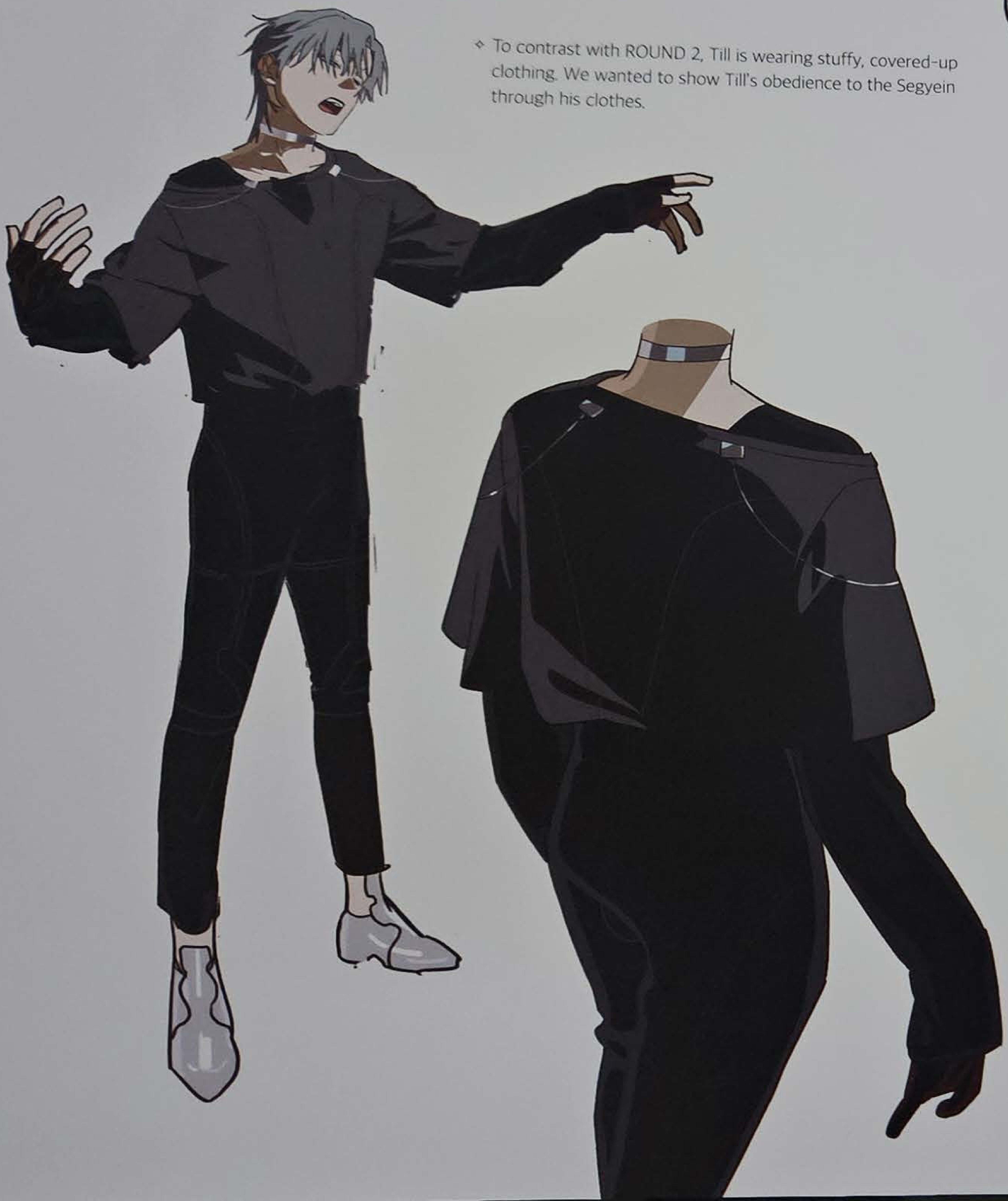
ROUND 6 | Ivan Character Sheet

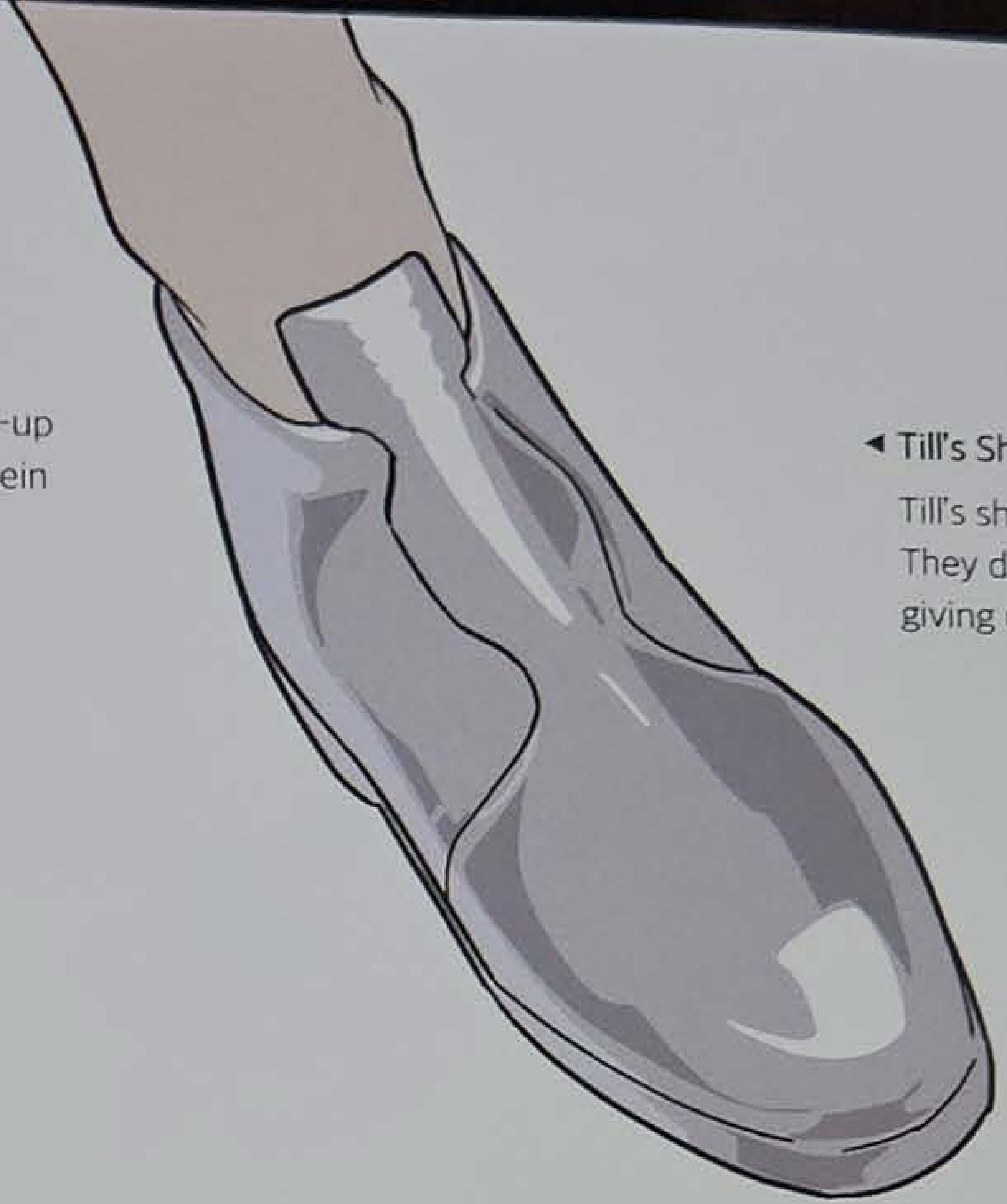




ROUND 6 | Till Character Sheet

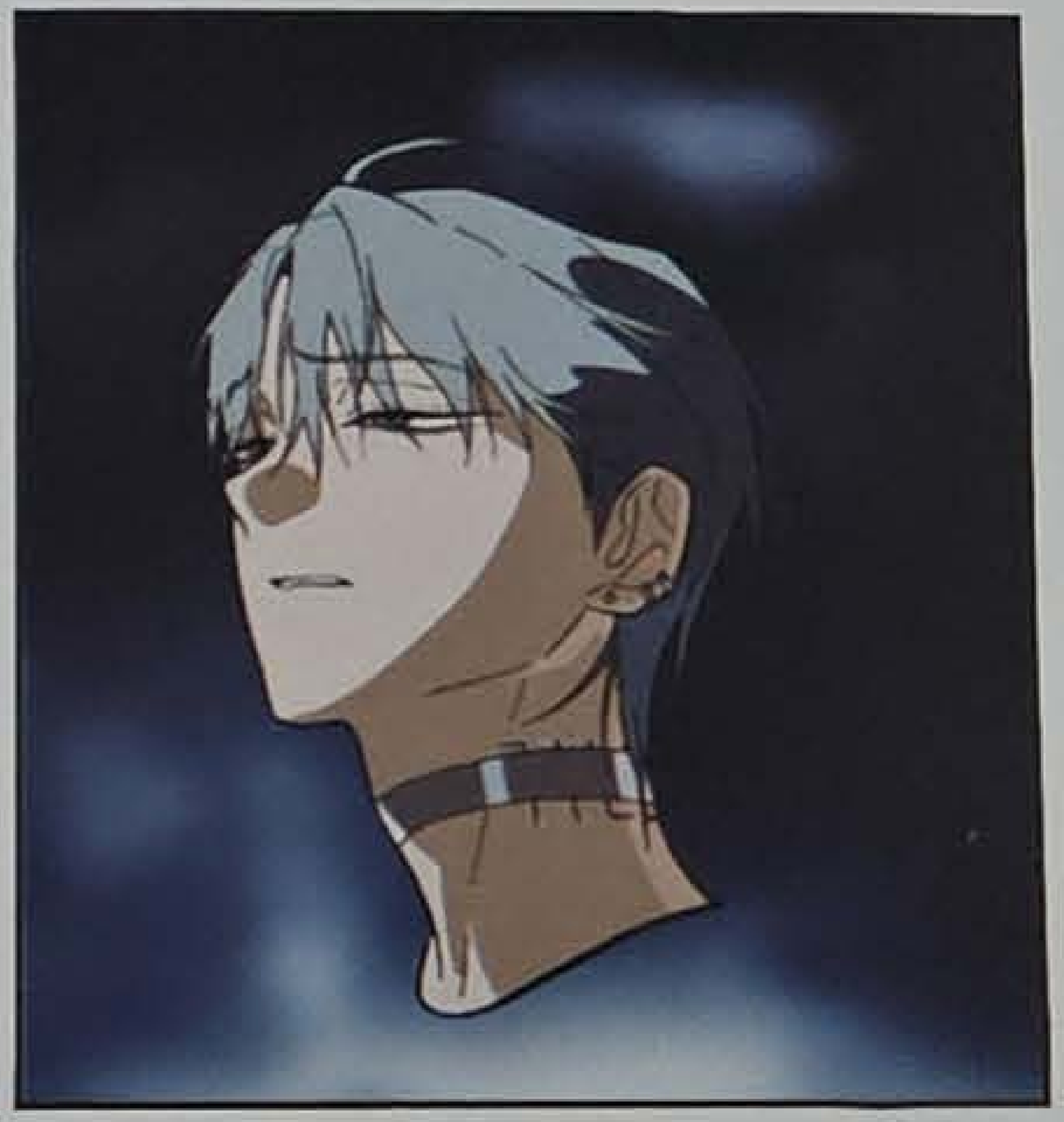
✧ To contrast with ROUND 2, Till is wearing stuffy, covered-up clothing. We wanted to show Till's obedience to the Segyein through his clothes.



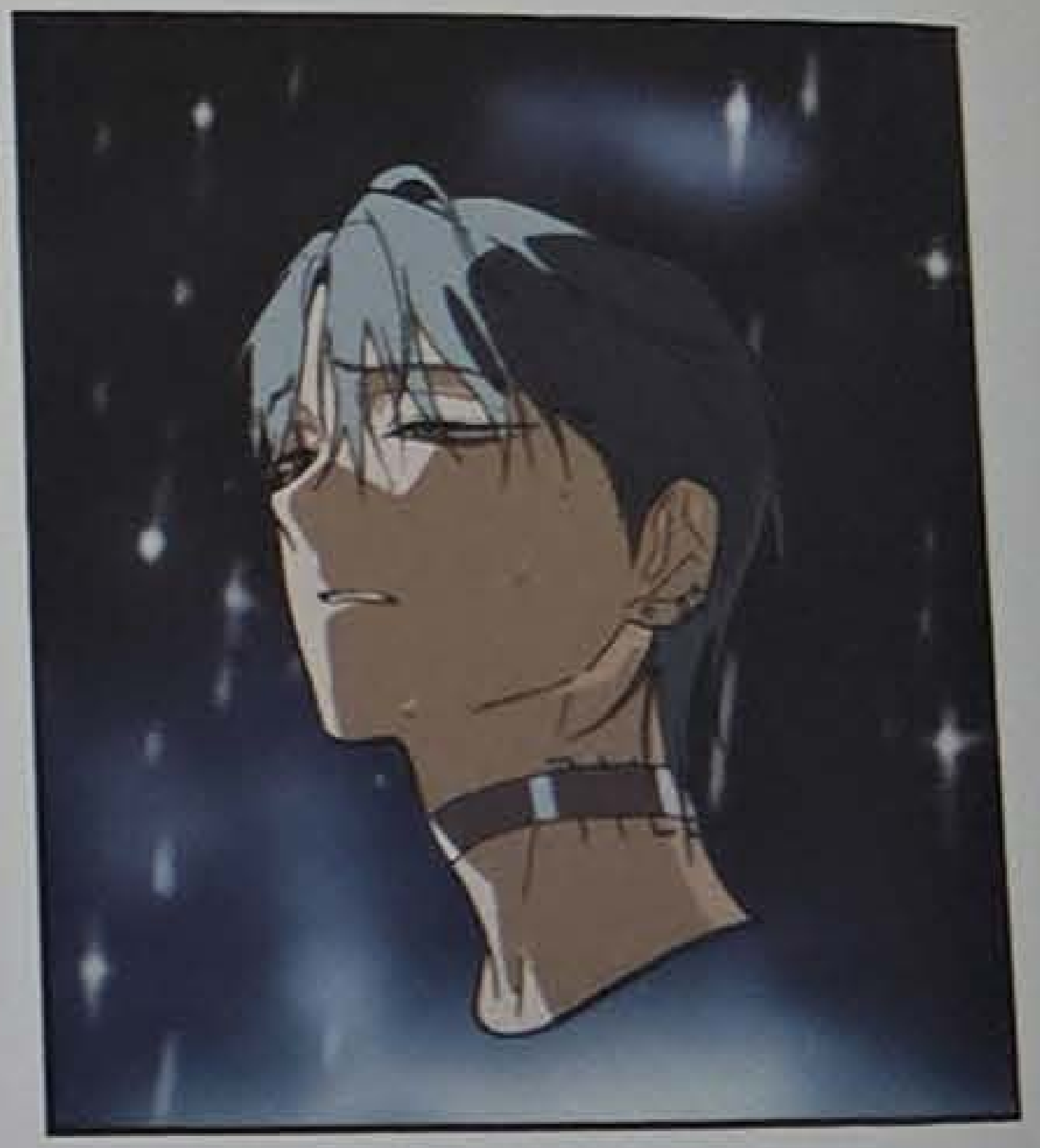


◂ **Till's Shoe**

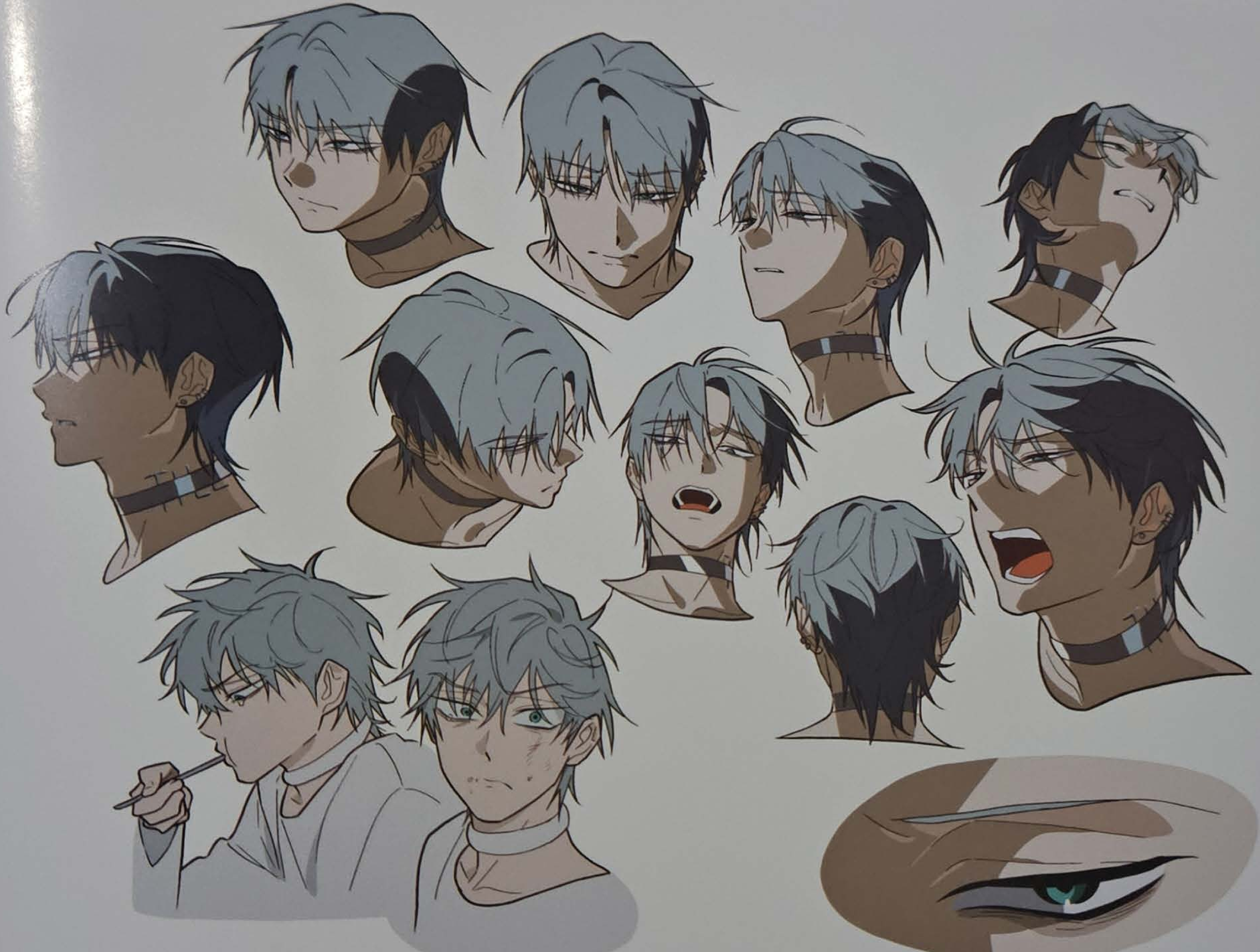
Till's shoes are made of a metallic material. They don't look even remotely comfortable, giving us a glimpse into Urak's uncaring nature.



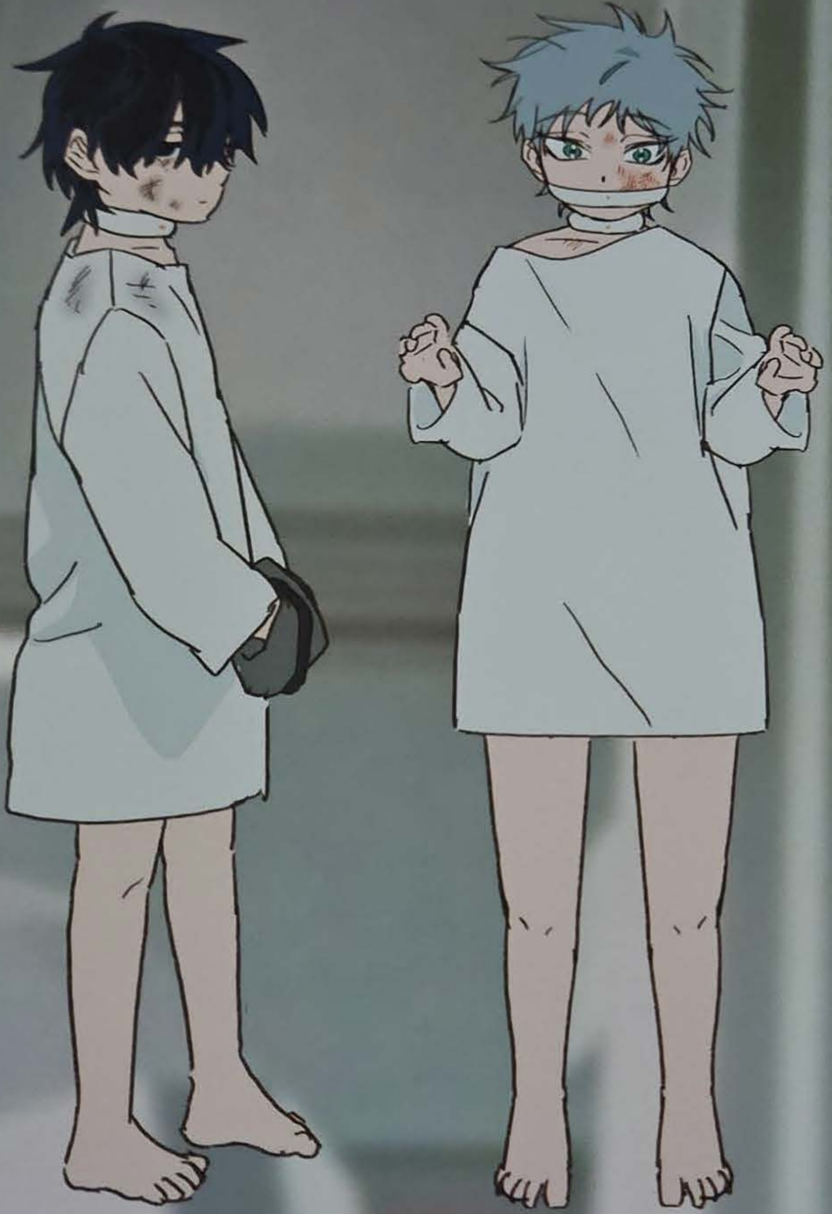
▲ Before rain



▲ After rain

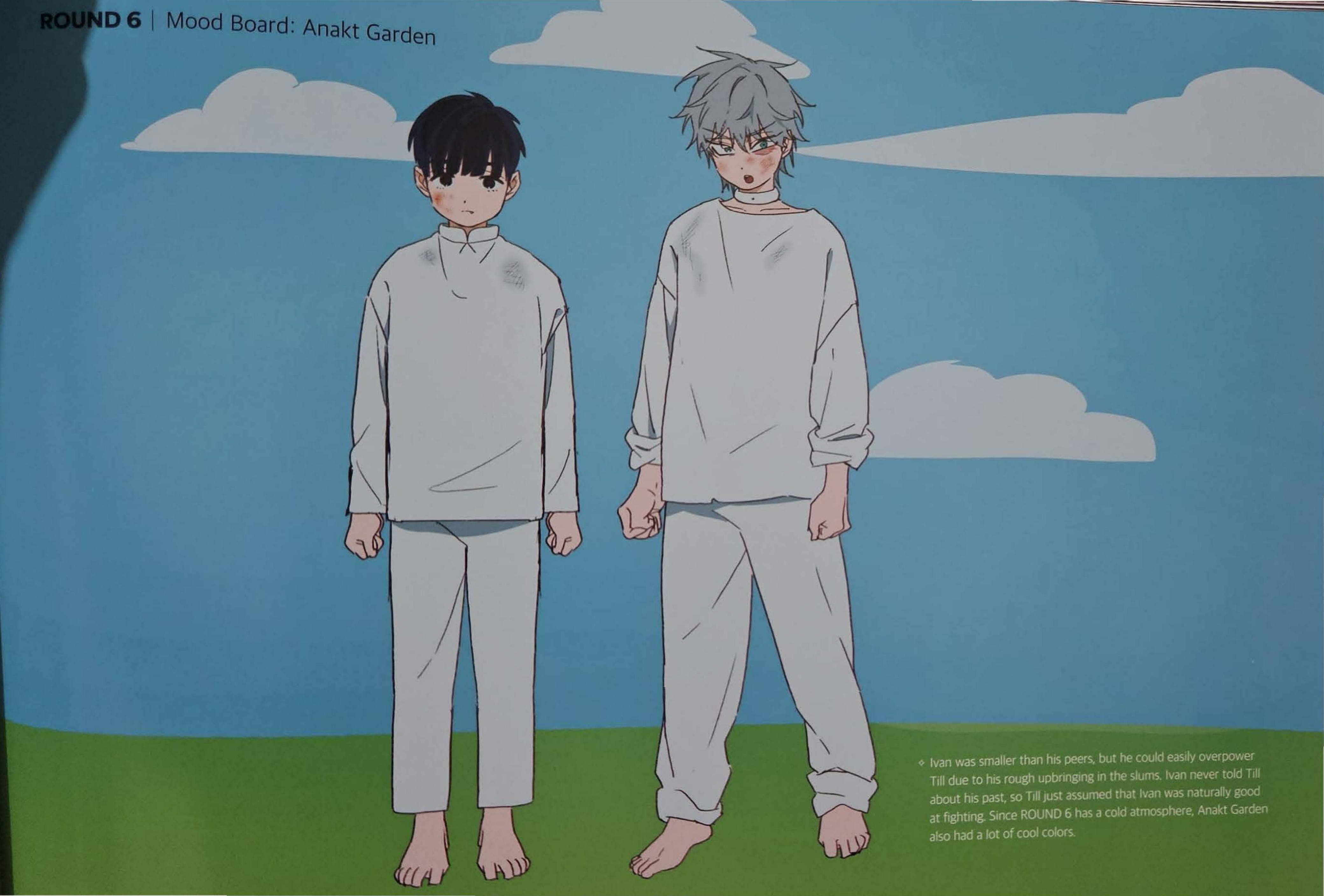


ROUND 6 | Mood Board: Childhood



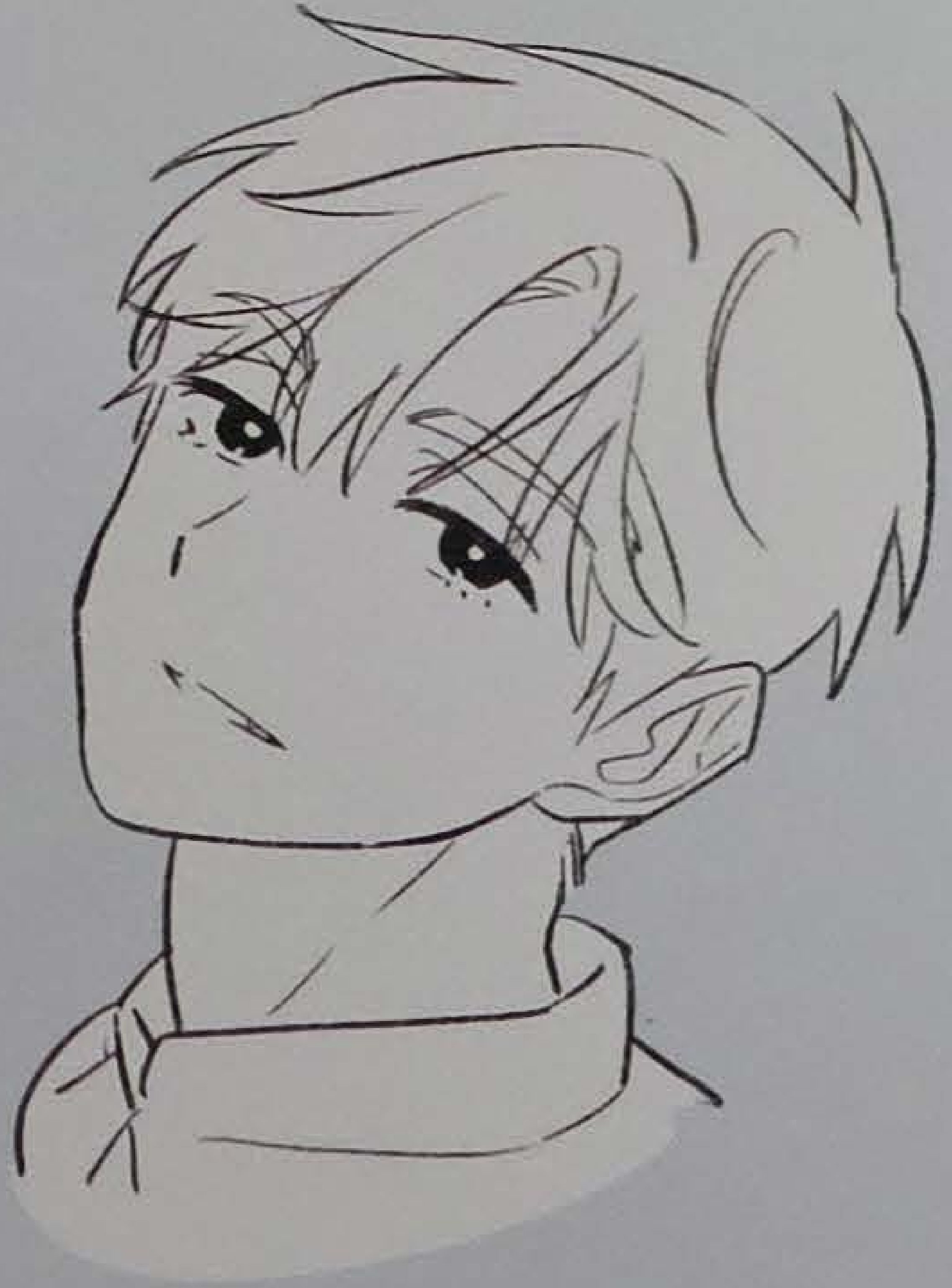
- This draft needed changes because Till's boyish looks were nowhere to be found. We decided to make changes while working on the actual episode, so there aren't any other drafts.

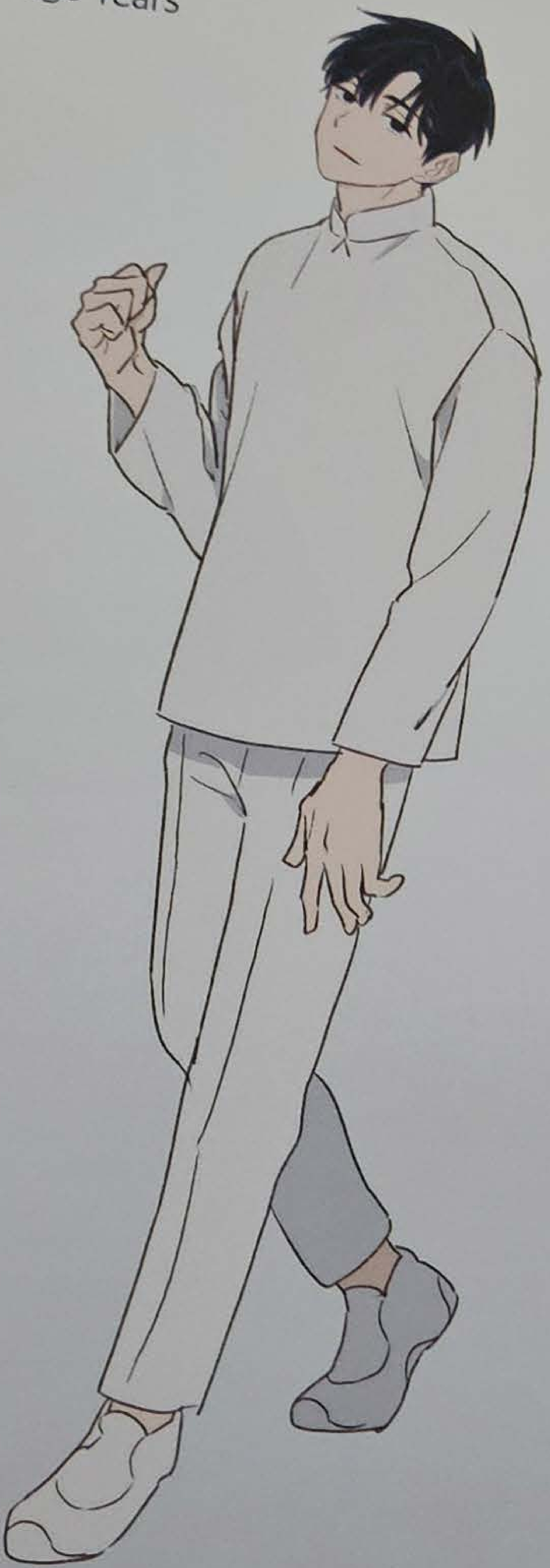
- Ivan was passing by the commercial district after getting purchased at the auction, and Till was on sale for a huge discount in the streets because no one was buying him. Neither of them remember that this was the first time they ever met.

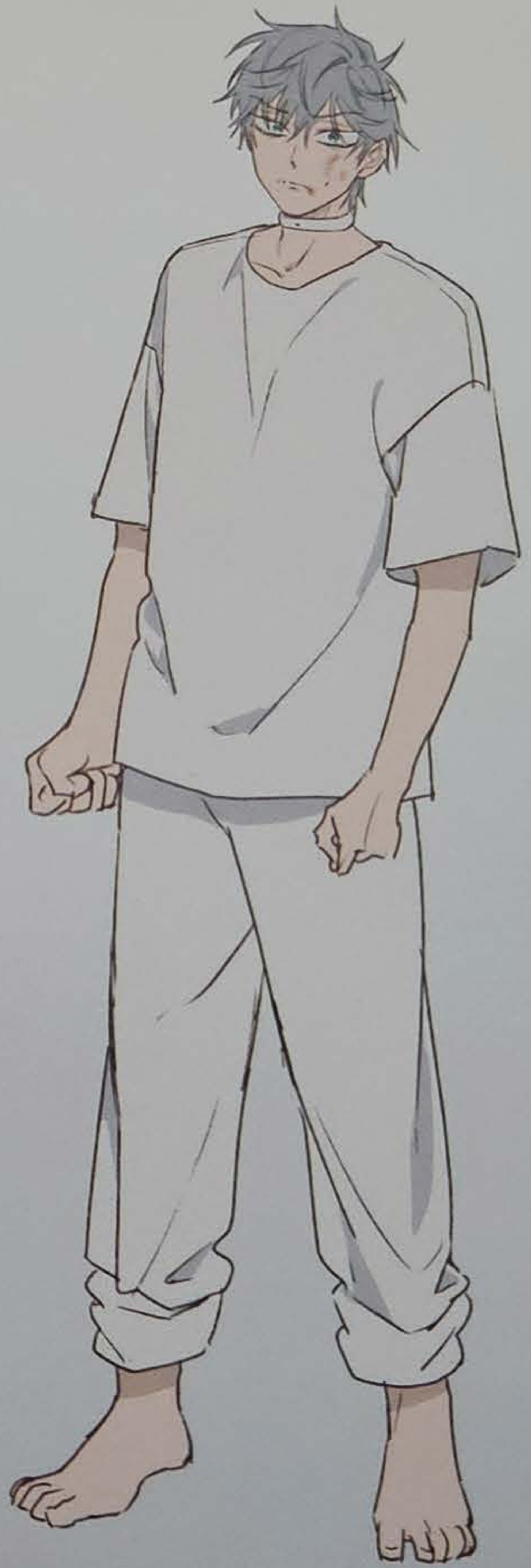


- Ivan was smaller than his peers, but he could easily overpower Till due to his rough upbringing in the slums. Ivan never told Till about his past, so Till just assumed that Ivan was naturally good at fighting. Since ROUND 6 has a cold atmosphere, Anakt Garden also had a lot of cool colors.

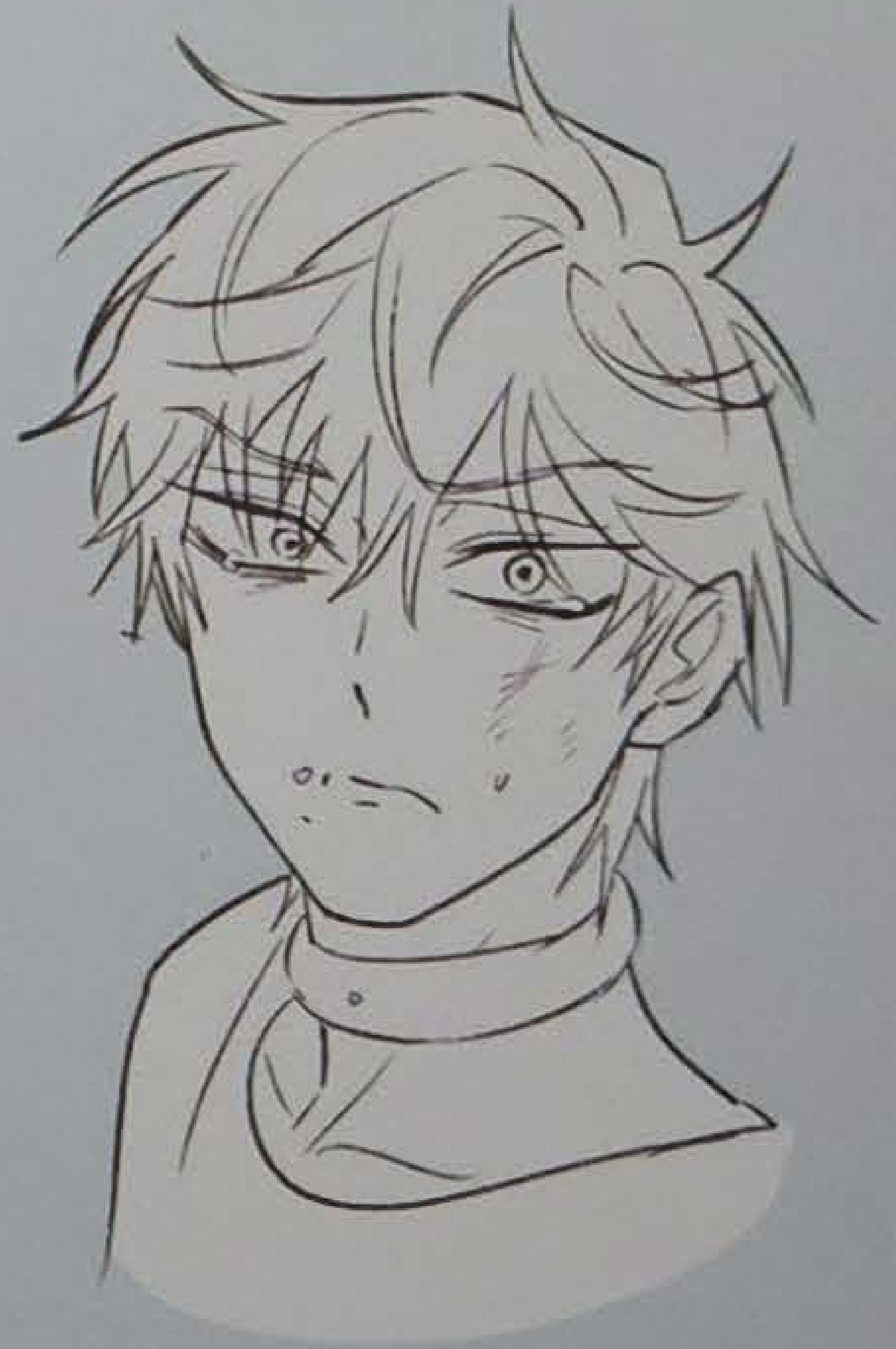
ROUND 6 | Mood Board: Teenage Years

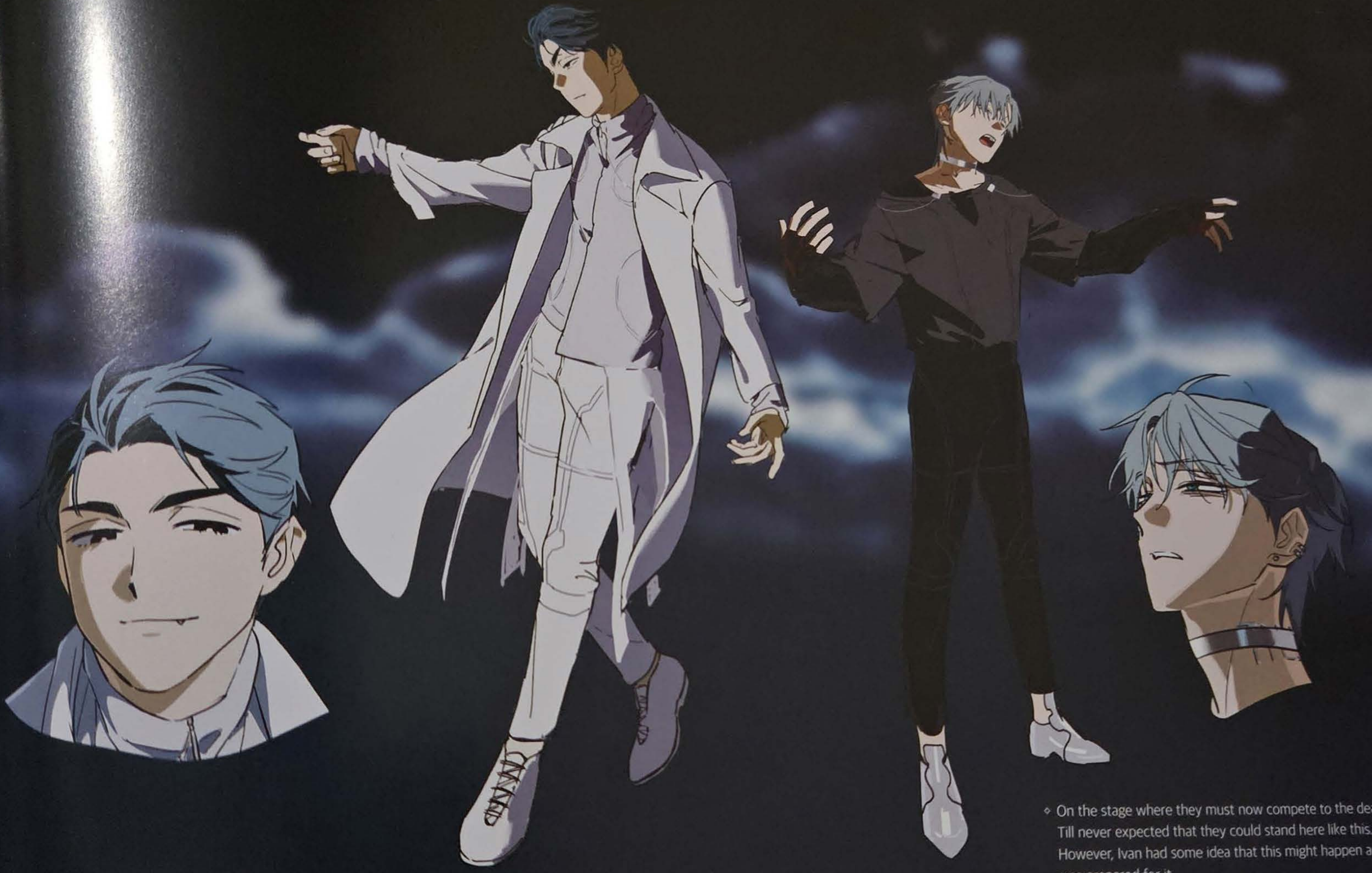




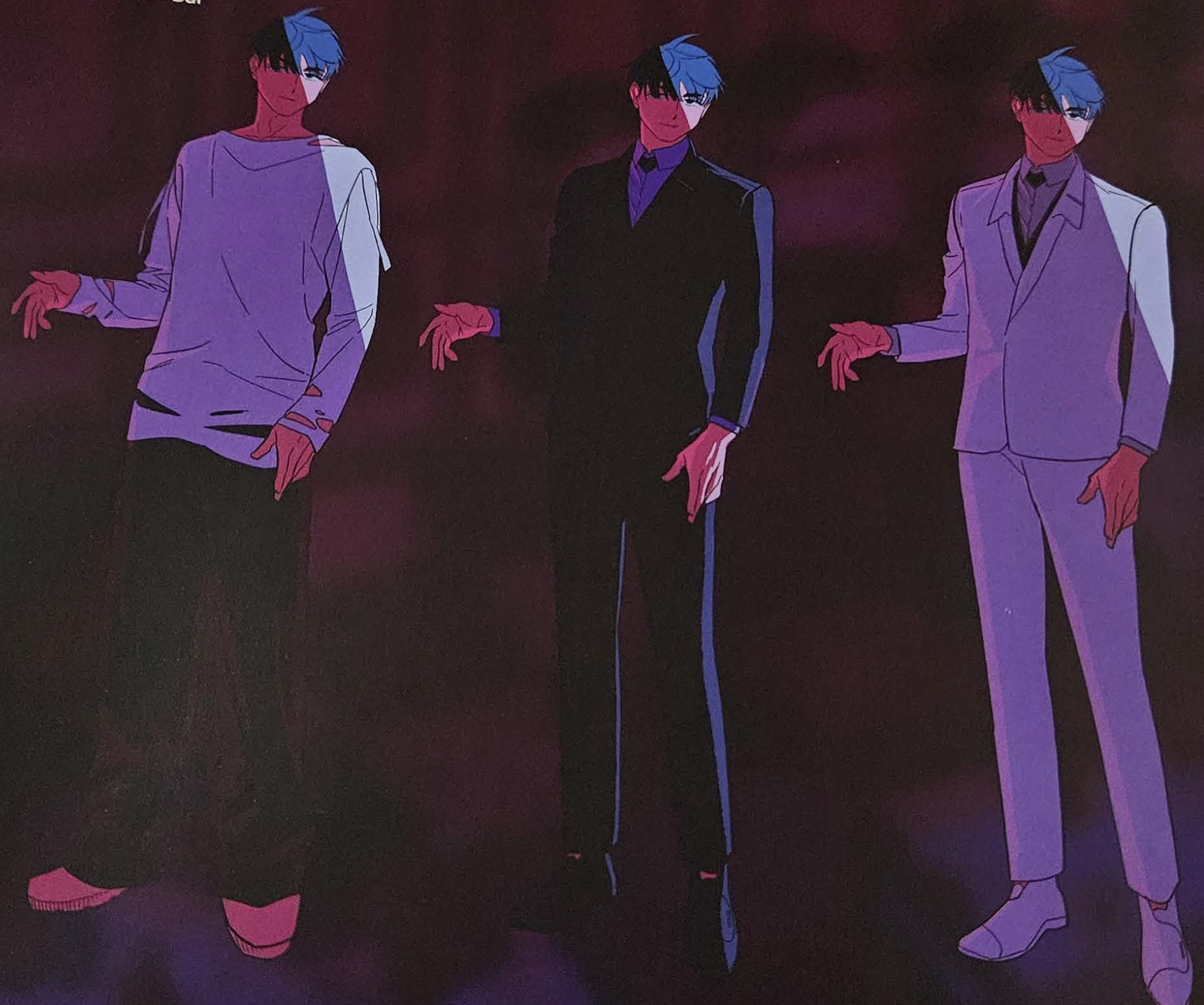


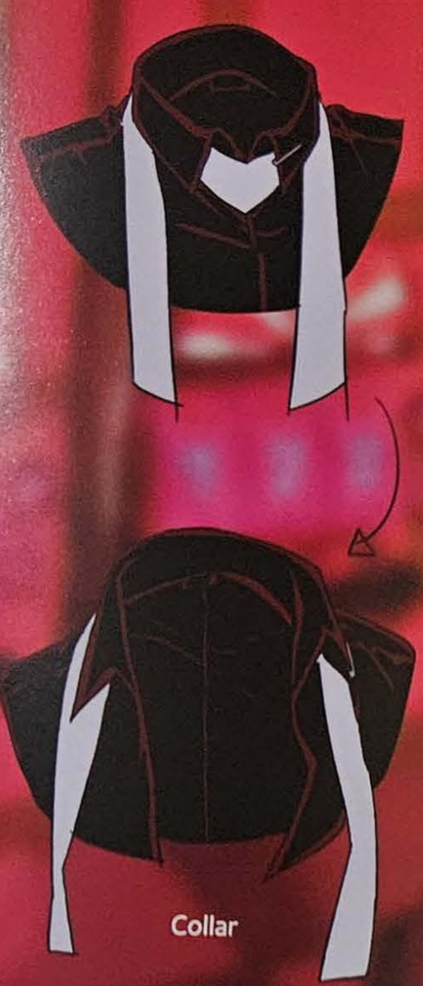
✧ By the time they were teenagers, Ivan had long since caught up to Till's height. Ivan's personality had solidified into the current mix of calm demeanor and playful smiles. Till didn't change much between his childhood and his teenage years and was as rebellious as ever. They both have traces of their childhood selves in their faces.



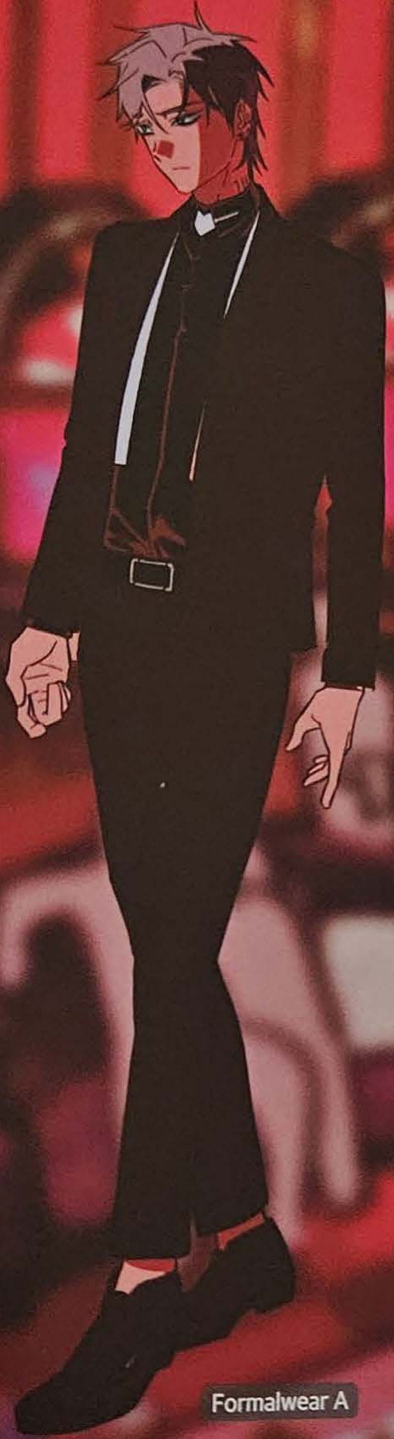


◦ On the stage where they must now compete to the death, Till never expected that they could stand here like this. However, Ivan had some idea that this might happen and was prepared for it.

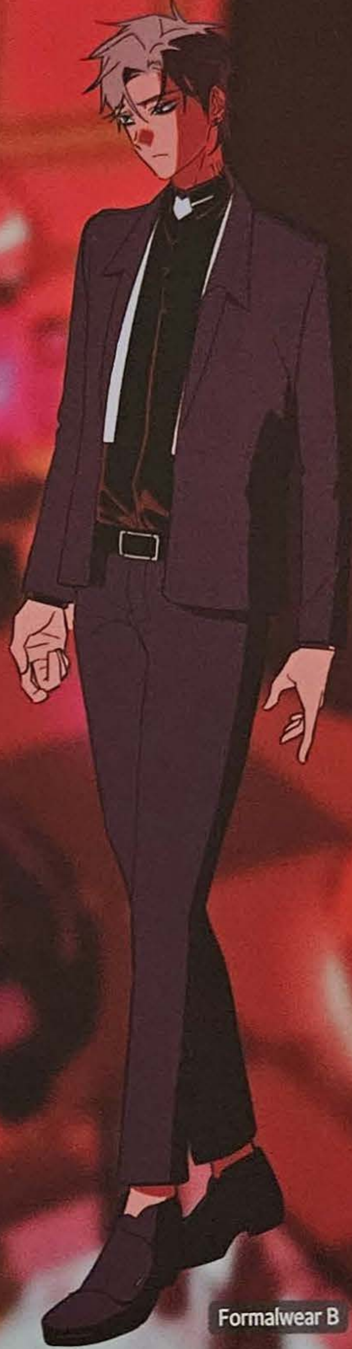




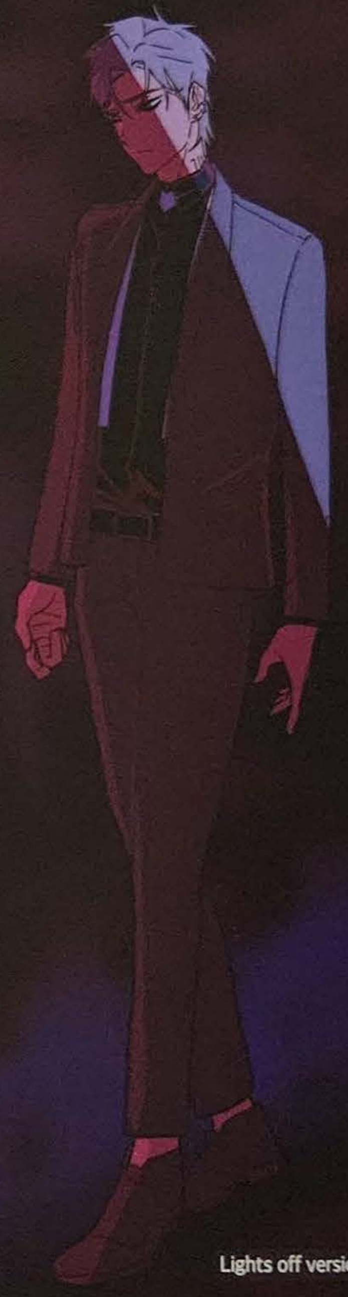
Collar



Formalwear A

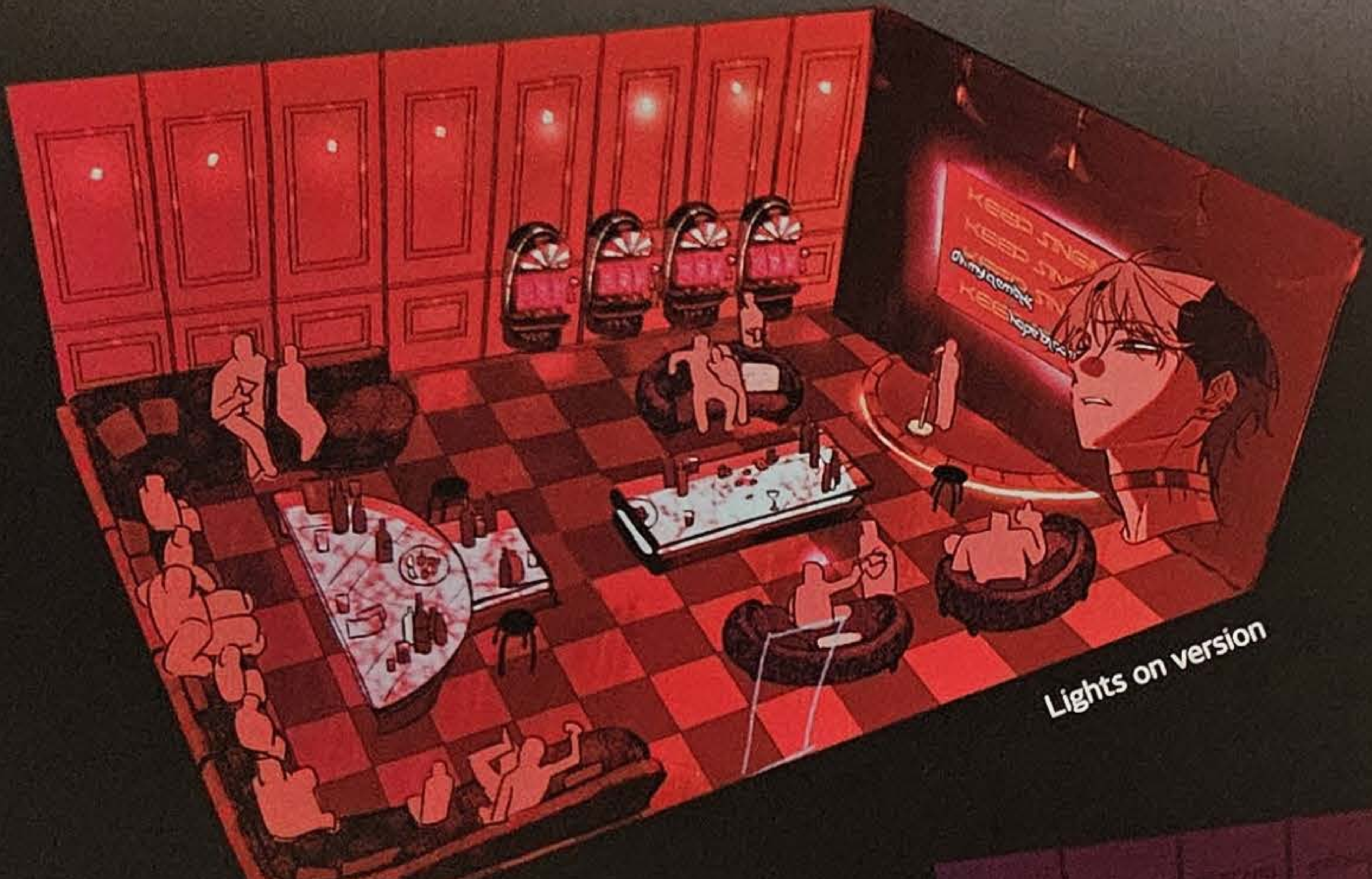


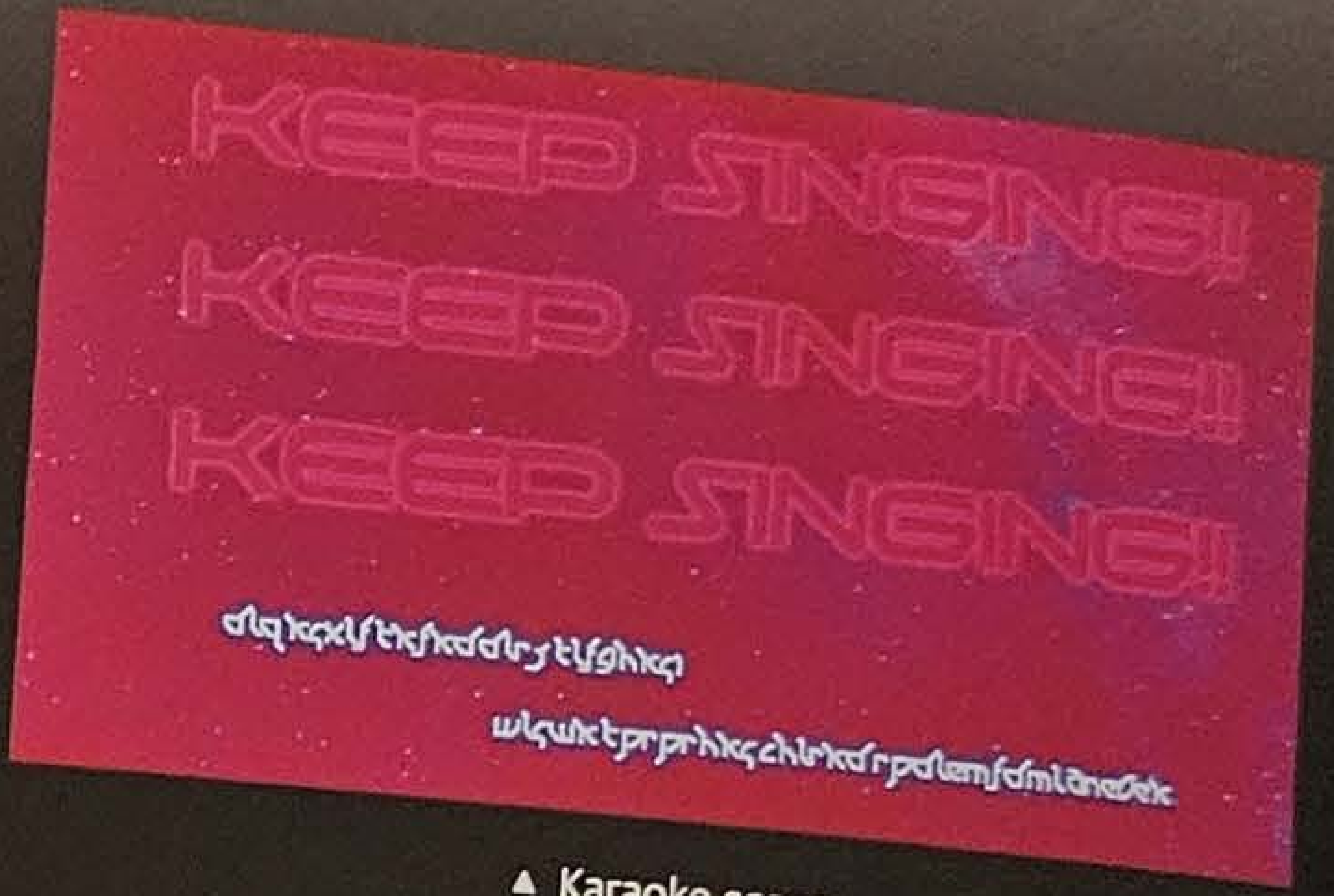
Formalwear B



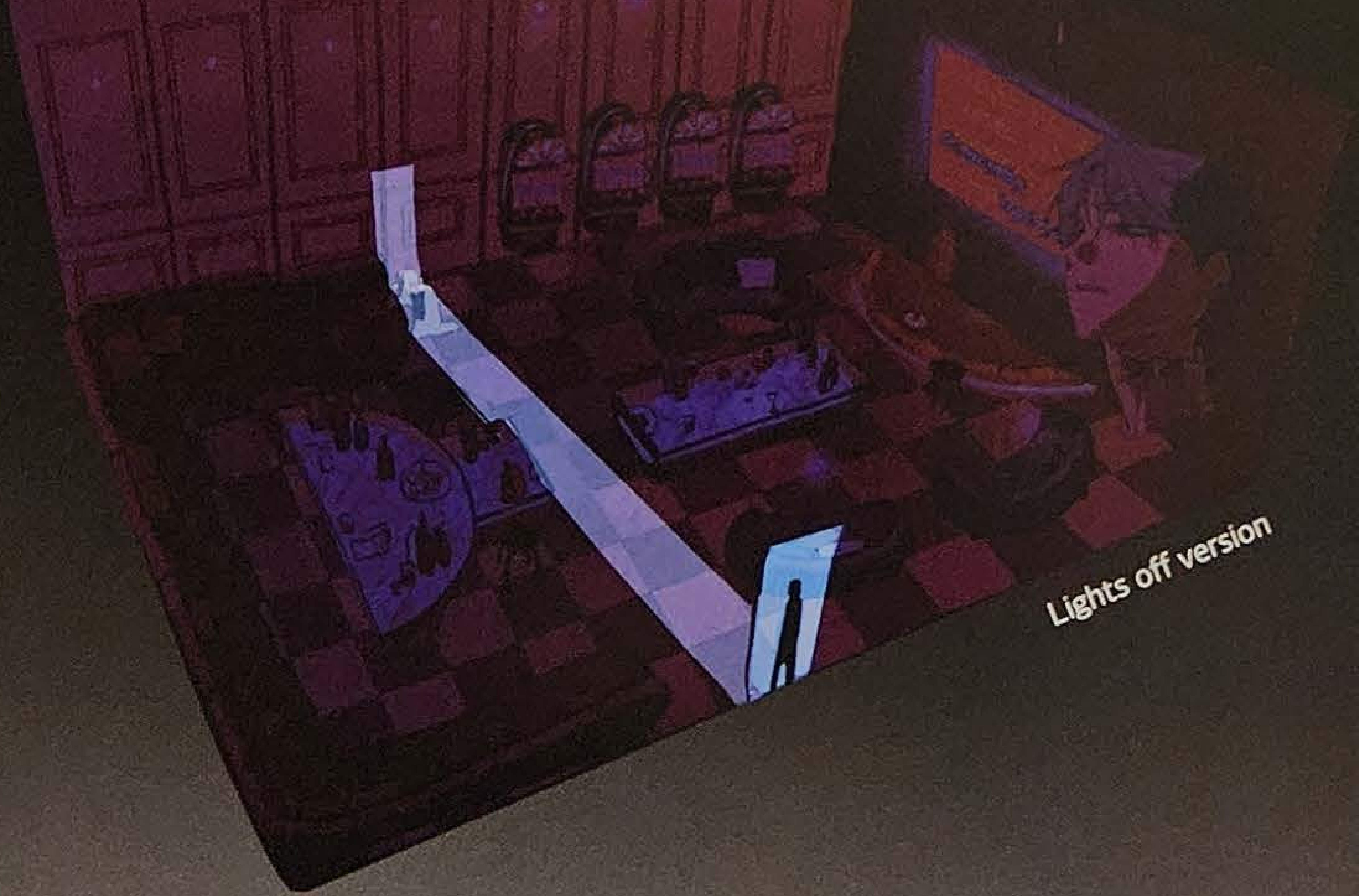
Lights off version

◦ Formal outfit draft. Till is wearing an uncharacteristically stuffy formal suit. He is denying Mizi's death as much as possible, and his old rebellious attitude is long gone.

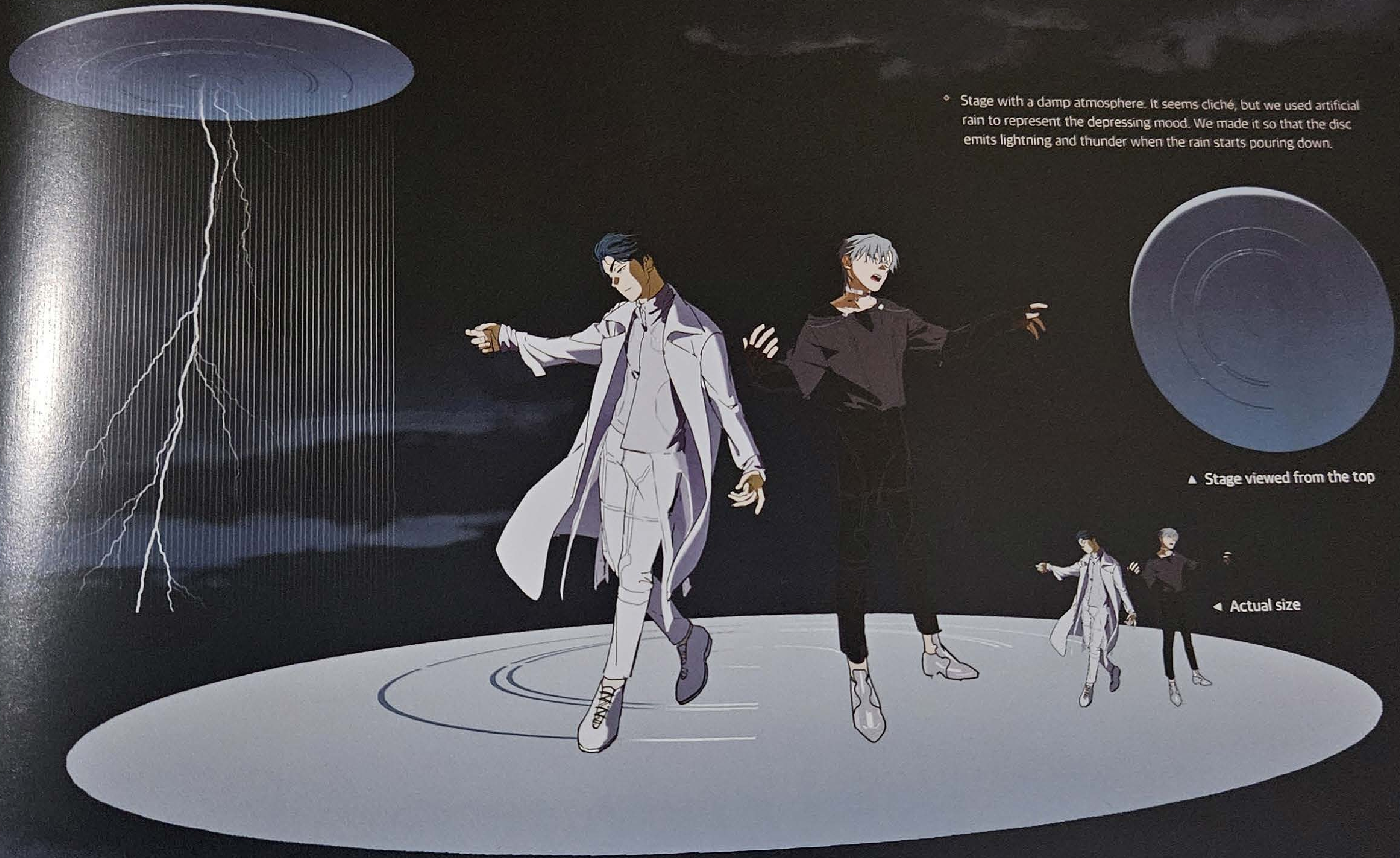

Lights on version


KEEP SINGING!
KEEP SINGING!
KEEP SINGING!

▲ Karaoke scene
The song that Urak made Till sing is "My Clematis"


Lights off version

◇ This is a place for business dealings disguised as a karaoke afterparty. Urak is from the bottom of the social ladder, so they were busy trying to grow their business. They chose a place that looked flashy and fancy in an attempt to please the upper class clientele, but they didn't realize that their choice could come off as a little tacky.

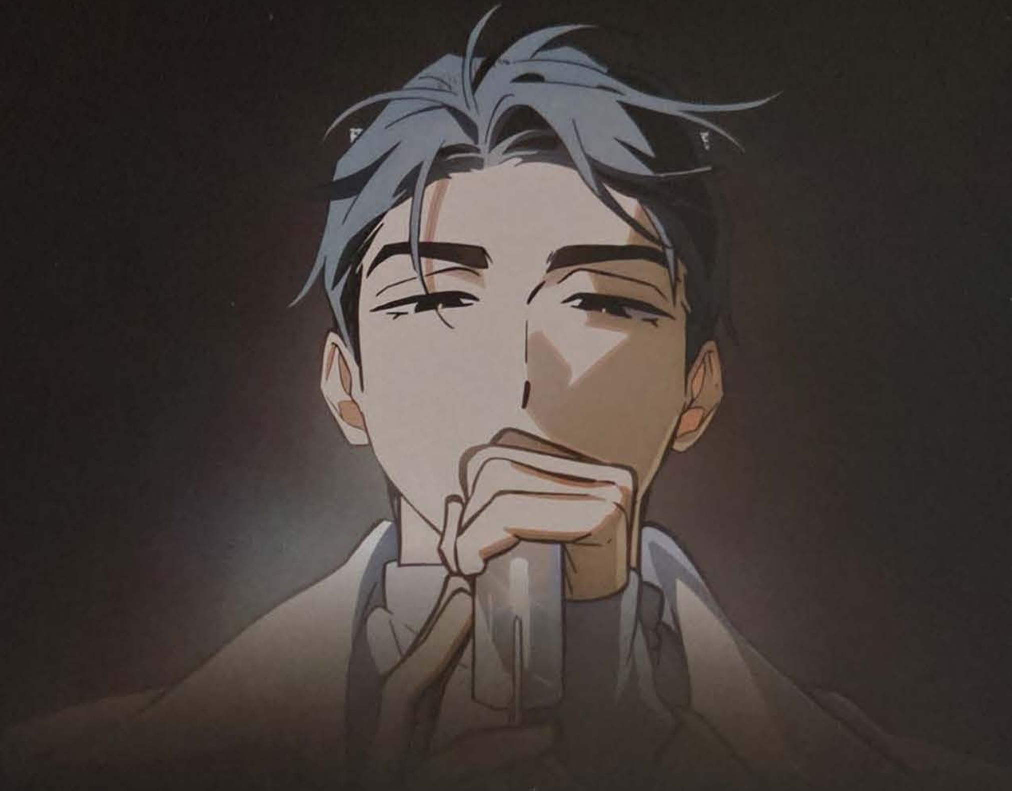


◇ Stage with a damp atmosphere. It seems cliché, but we used artificial rain to represent the depressing mood. We made it so that the disc emits lightning and thunder when the rain starts pouring down.

▲ **Stage viewed from the top**

◄ **Actual size**

ALIEN STAGE ROUND 6 COMMENTARY

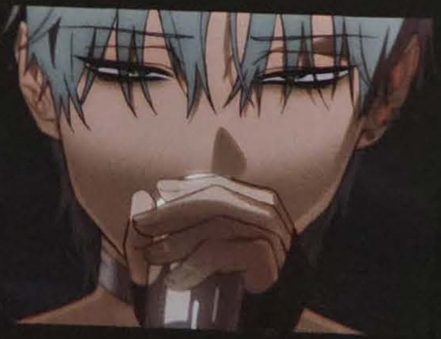


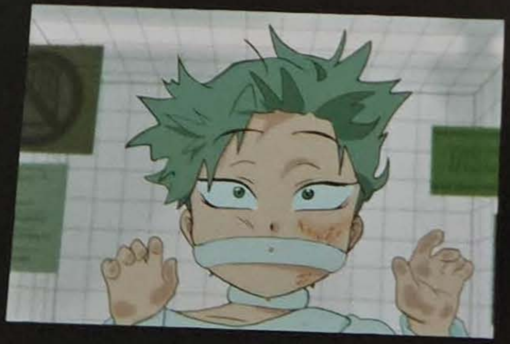
CURE

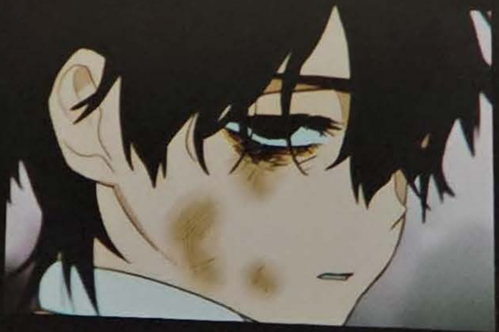
Song by **AKUGETSU (TILL), PARK BYEONG HOON (IVAN)**

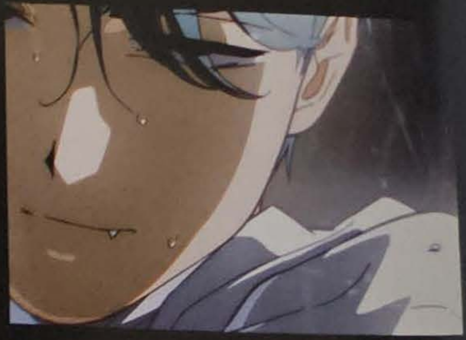
Director Commentary

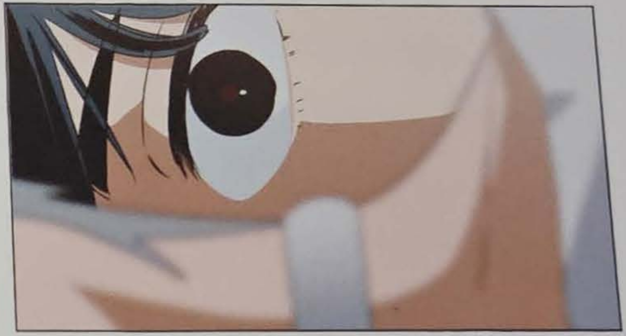
Till and Ivan's performance is something the entire production team had been anticipating since the beginning of *Alien Stage*, since this is the moment when the story gets shaken up tremendously and the fates of all the characters rapidly change directions. With this in mind, we made this episode with the intention of being more engaging with a heavier atmosphere than before.









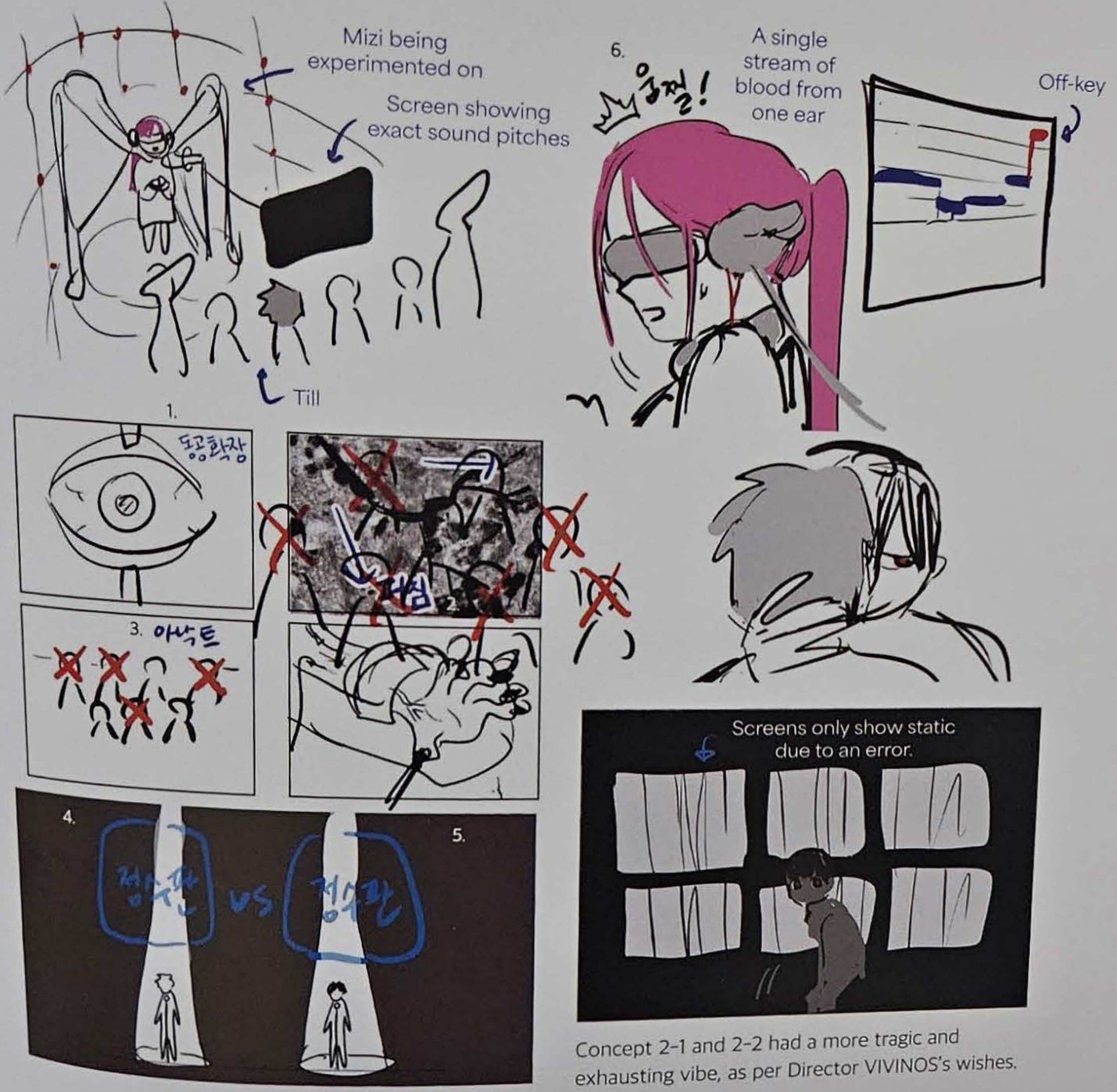


ROUND 6 Concept 1

While the production for ROUND 3 was in full swing, Co-Director QMENG made the first draft for ROUND 6. The bittersweet relationship between Ivan and Till overlapped too much with the relationship between Mizi and Sua, so we ended up changing course to focus on more possessive, controlling, and obsessive themes.

ROUND 6 Concept 2-1

#Horror #Tragedy


Mizi being experimented on
Screen showing exact sound pitches
Till
6.
움찔!
A single stream of blood from one ear
Off-key
1.
동공확장
퍼짐
2.
3. 아낙트
4.
점수판 vs 점수판
5.
Screens only show static due to an error.

Concept 2-1 and 2-2 had a more tragic and exhausting vibe, as per Director VIVINOS's wishes.

1. *Dilated pupils* 2. *Spreads* 3. *Anakt* 4. *Scoreboard* 5. *Scoreboard* 6. *Flinch!*

ROUND 6 Concept 2-2

#Emotional #Exhausting

Till is dejected after Mizi's disappearance. He gets onstage for the next round of Alien Stage, but he looks as if he has lost his will to live.

Ivan sees Till seeming down and purposely touches Till in a way that he knows will make him angry, something he remembers from back when they used to fight in Anakt Garden.

Till gets upset at Ivan constantly provoking him and channels that anger by bursting into energetic song.

Their music crosses back and forth into their memories. As the song reaches the finale and Till, who is confident in his victory, looks to his side—

Plot twist here. The music also cuts out, leaving only silence.

Contrary to Till's expectations, Ivan looks satisfied by the current situation, expression revealing a creepy smile directed at Till. Ivan's face looks more lively and determined than ever before.

Rather than cling to life or express sadness at a friend's death, he looks as if he had been waiting for this moment his entire life... For a brief moment, Ivan's face reverts to his younger self with a sense of déjà vu.

This younger face of Ivan's is a familiar sight for Till from back when Till was being punished and restrained due to Ivan's machinations. As Till was losing consciousness, he barely managed to open his eyes to glimpse a pair of pure red eyes. Red eyes that seemed to be observing his injured self with great satisfaction.

When we return to the present day, there is a close-up on Ivan's mouth muttering something.

Music starts back up

After seeing that expression, Till freezes up for a moment in confusion and Ivan kisses him. The scoreboard starts to move and Till is victorious.

Till watches Ivan's corpse as a flaming red meteor (Ivan) falls above him. Till realizes he will never escape Ivan's shadow and falls into despair.

At that moment Till catches a faint glimpse of a short haired Mizi, unsure of whether or not it was a hallucination.

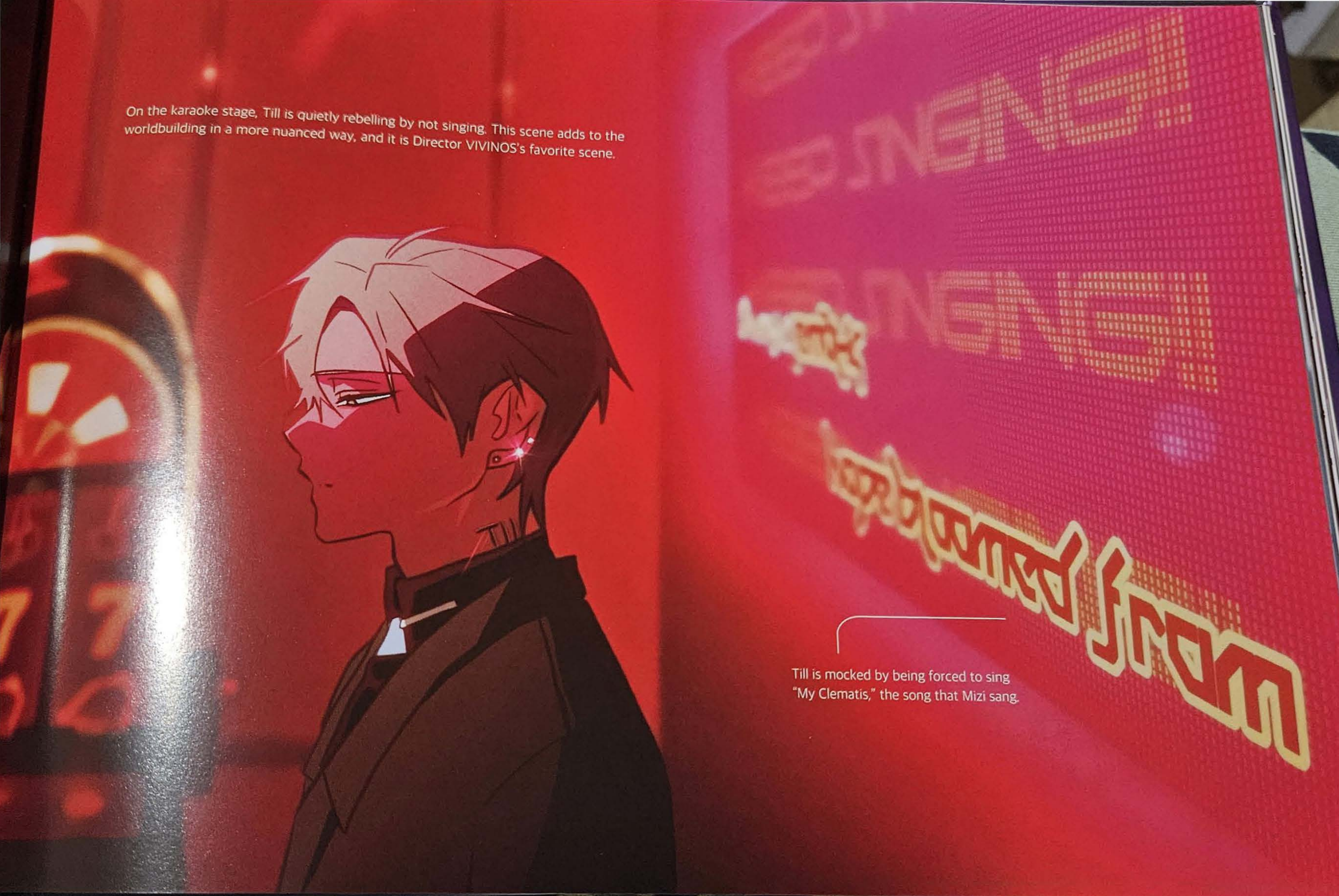
An insert shot from the beginning of ROUND 6. We added this scene to show that Anakt Garden is a terrifying place for pet humans. Most pet humans have been constantly experimented on since the day they were born, so it doesn't even cross their minds to think that this pain is something they can get away from. These experiments are deeply ingrained into Anakt Garden as being conducted in the name of education.

As the shadows clear away from Till's face, the performance begins.
The once-rebellious Till who rejected society is nowhere to be seen.
The loss of a loved one has overtaken him, and only a docile pet human remains.

Rules for conserving Till's good looks

- Shadows shouldn't bend too sharply on his face.
- The viewer's gaze must naturally go toward his eyes.
- Don't make his face too angled in an attempt to make him look more manly.
- His hair needs to fall swiftly in one direction.

We needed to preserve Till's aggressive features and the way he inspires a protective instinct in the viewer. A lot of work was put into this from the beginning of ROUND 6's production.

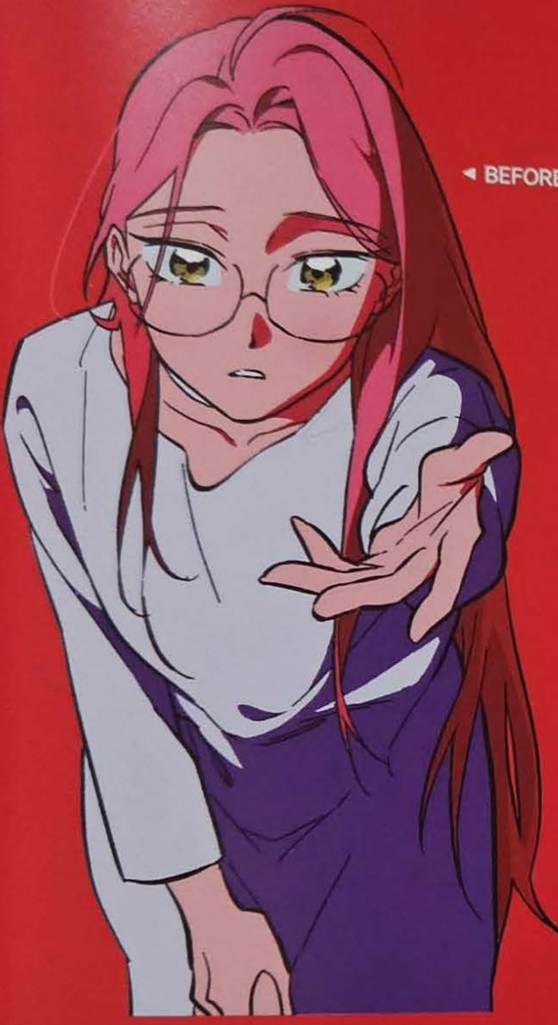

SING!
SING!
from

On the karaoke stage, Till is quietly rebelling by not singing. This scene adds to the worldbuilding in a more nuanced way, and it is Director VIVINOS's favorite scene.

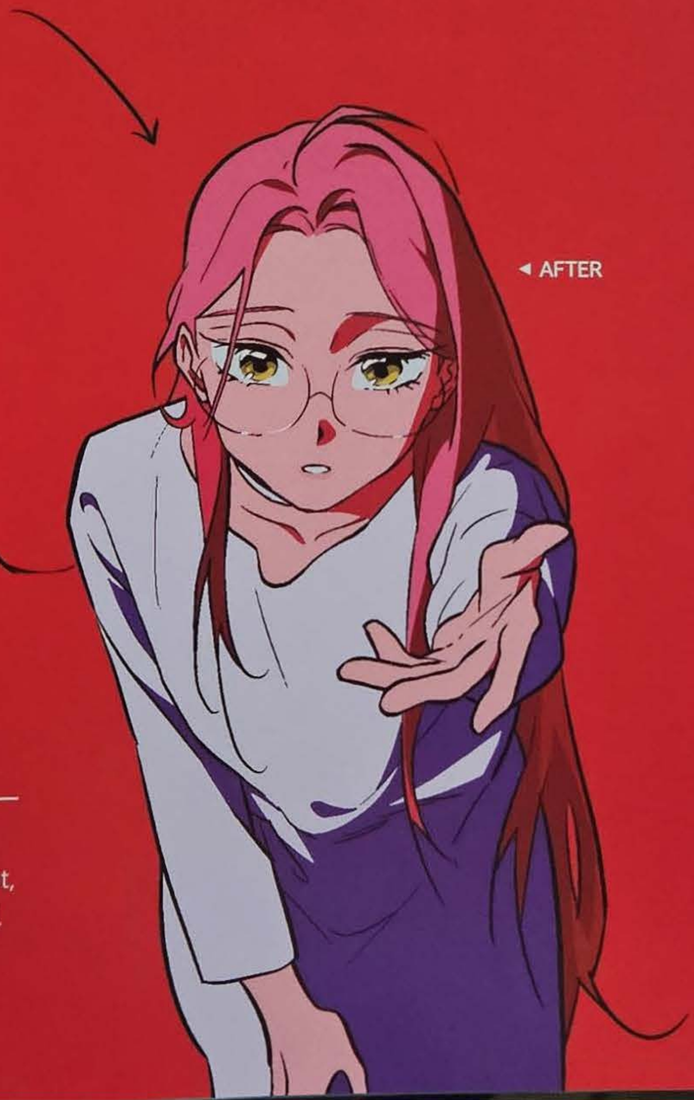
Till is mocked by being forced to sing "My Clematis," the song that Mizi sang.

Till cannot hold in his rage and lunges at the Segyein in front of him. To make Till seem less independent and give a stronger sense of oppression, we switch over into a scene where he has been subdued.

[S-36] Art Director: VIVINOS



◄ BEFORE

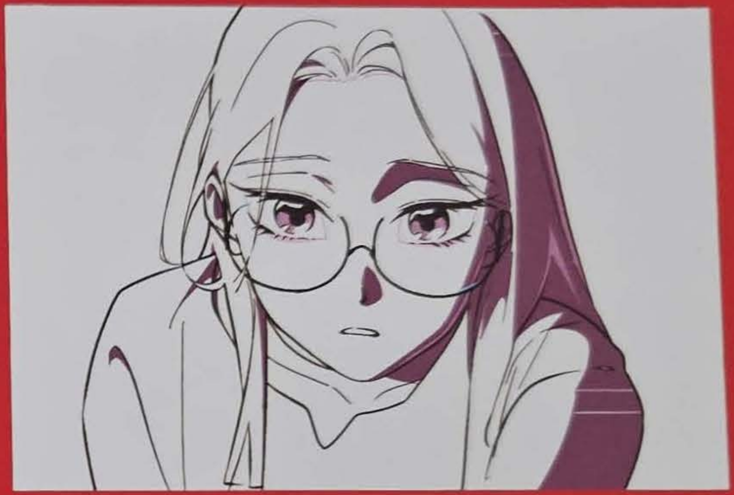


◄ AFTER

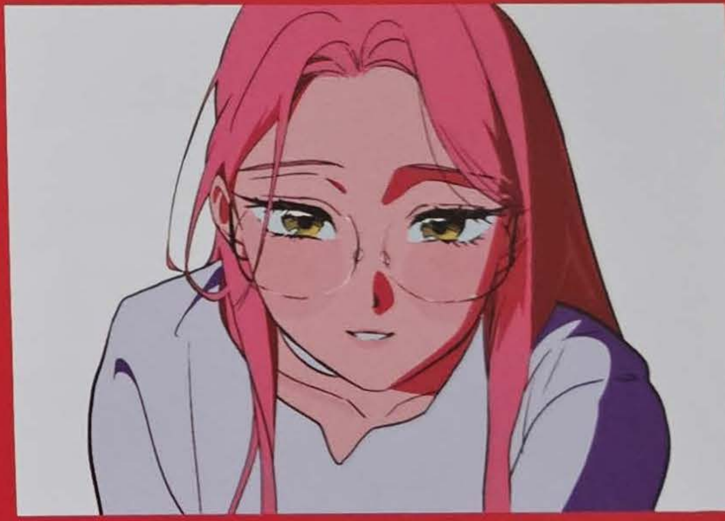
POINT

The image of Mizi that shimmers in front of Till. To make the Mizi in Till's head look gentle and innocent, her overall impression and expression was adjusted.

[S-38] Art Director: VIVINOS

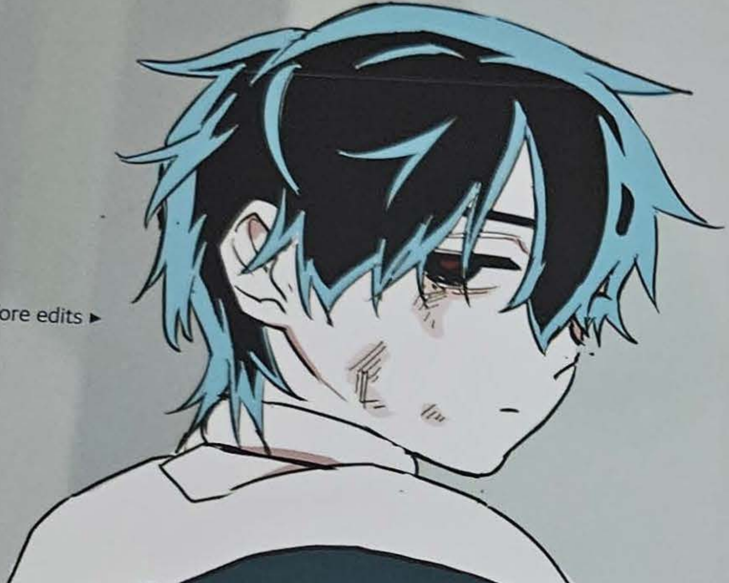


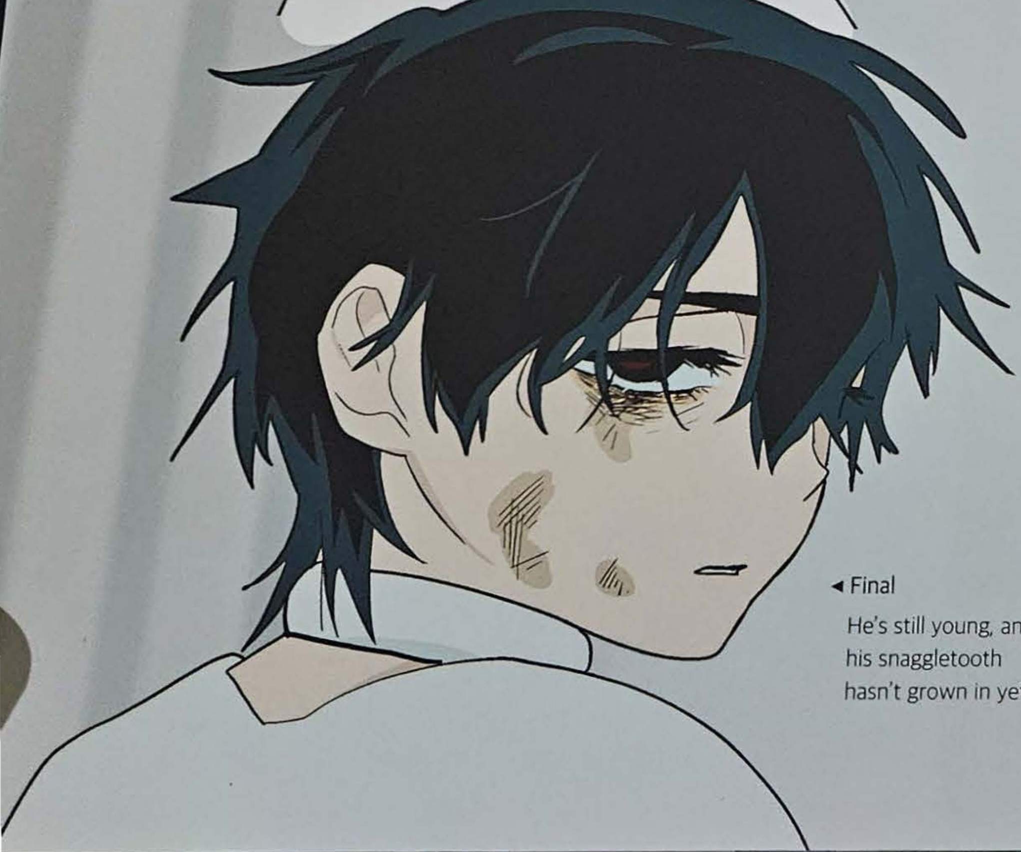
▲ Before changes



▲ After changes

Before edits ▸



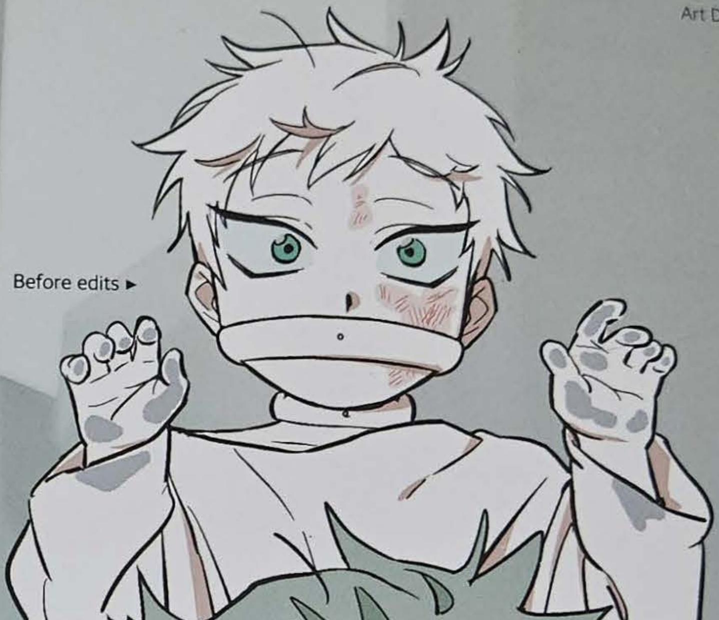


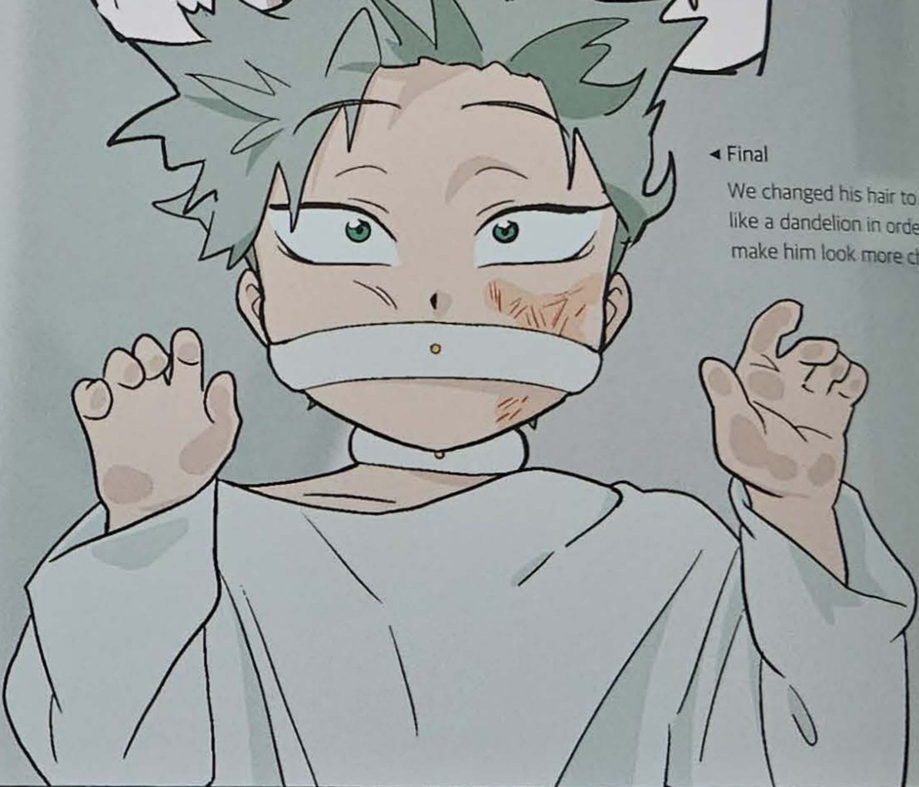
◂ Final

He's still young, and his snaggletooth hasn't grown in yet.

Art Director: VIVINOS

Before edits ▸

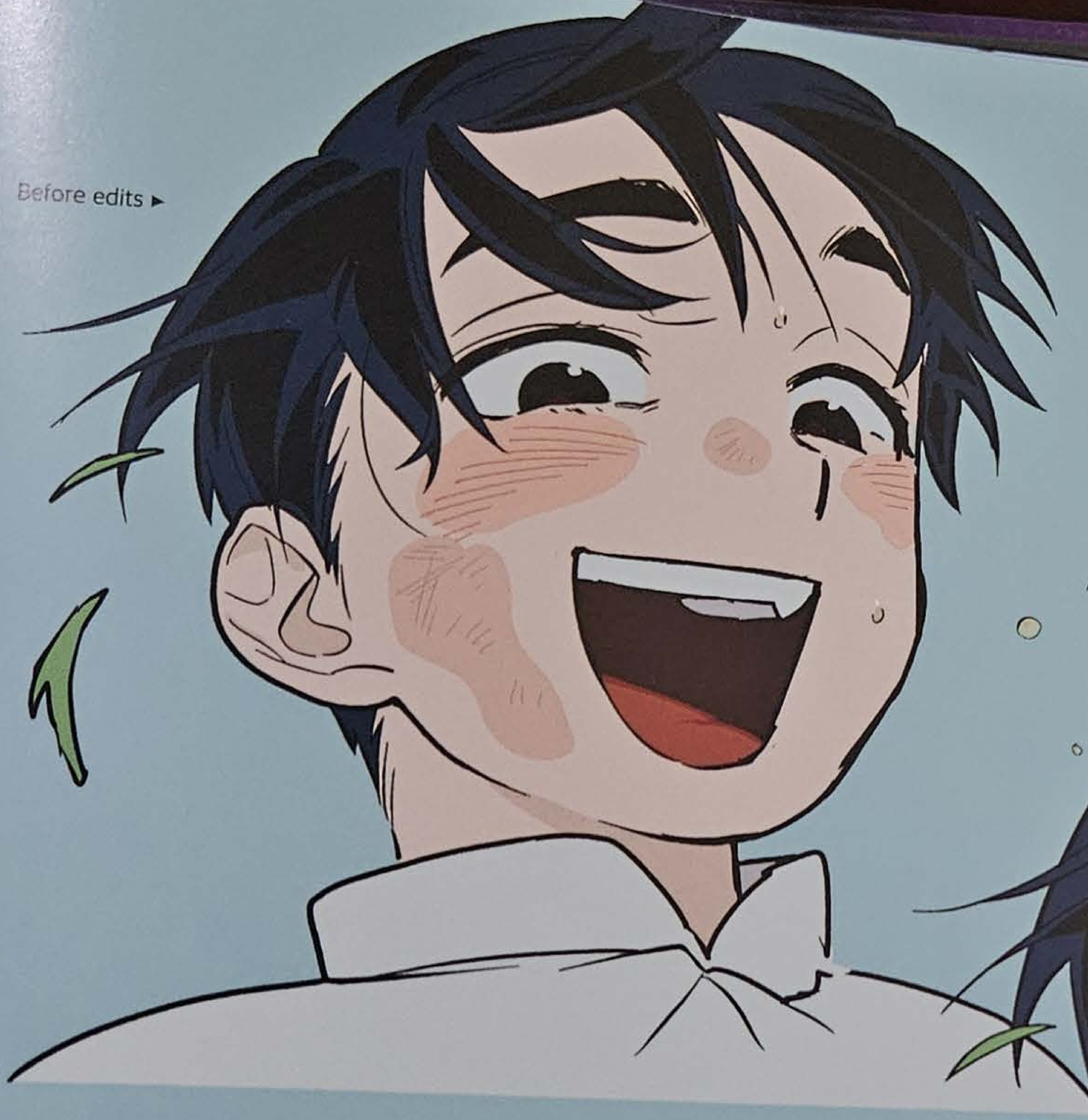




◂ Final

We changed his hair to look like a dandelion in order to make him look more childlike.

Before edits ▸

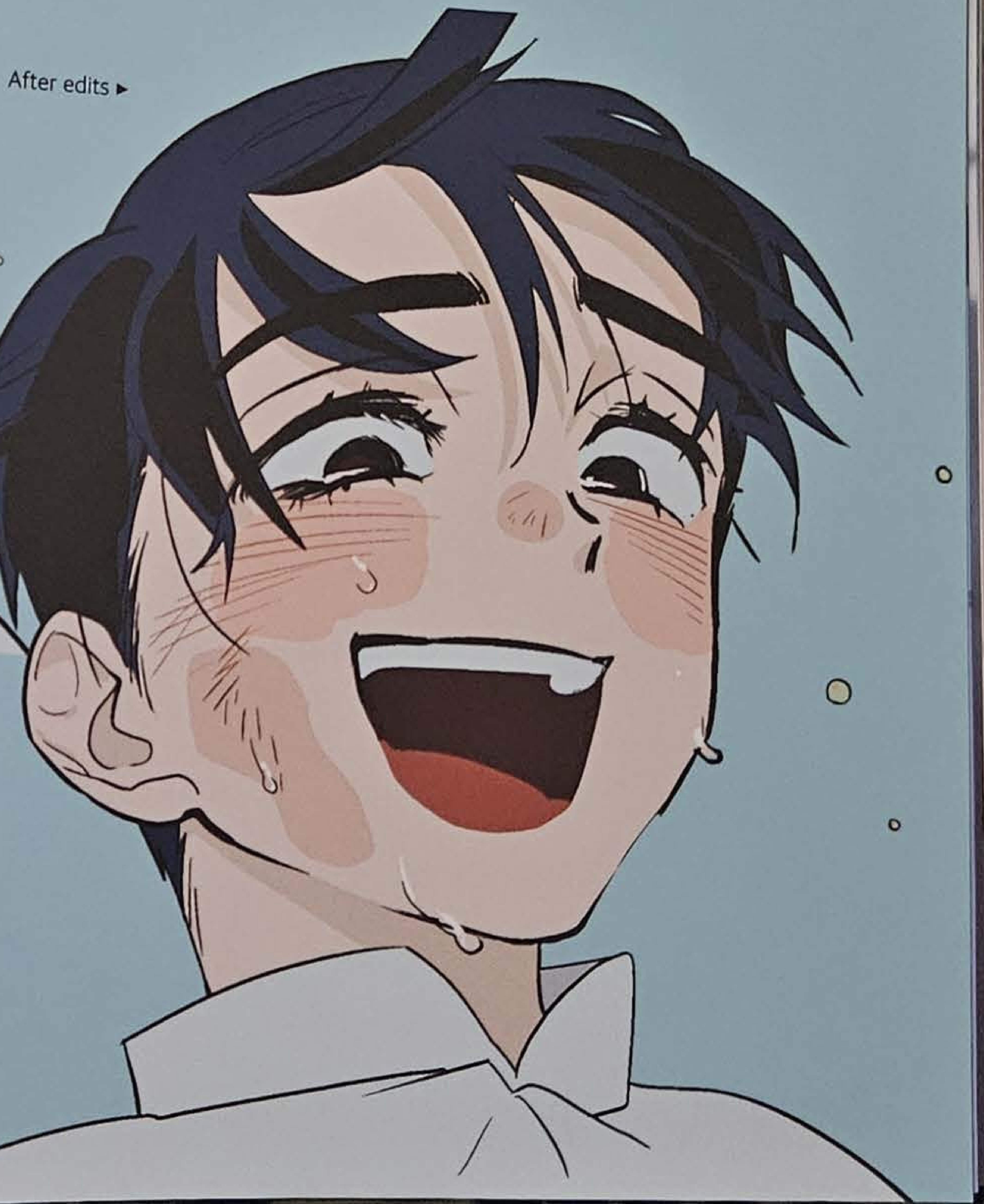


Art Director: VIVINOS

POINT

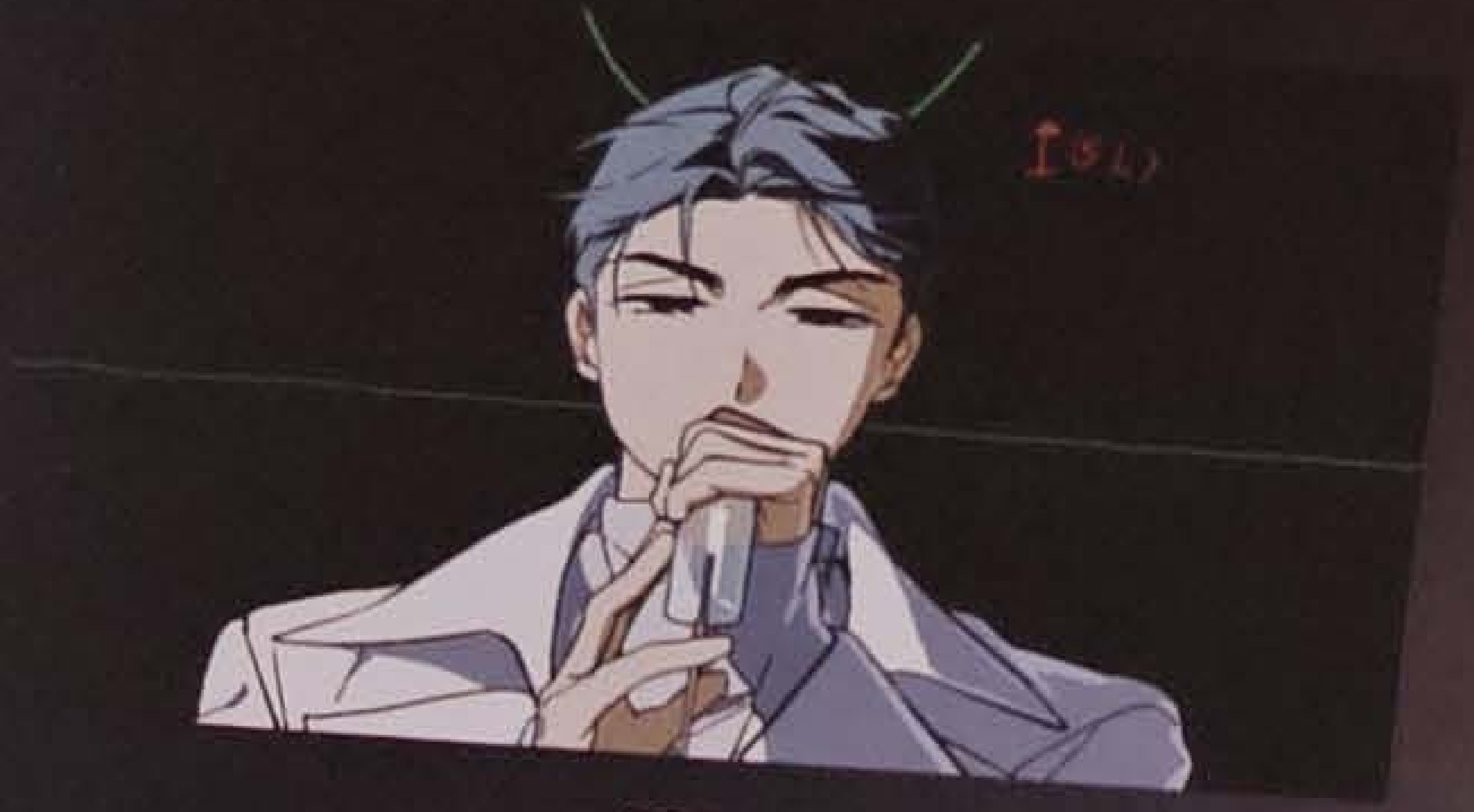
Ivan's expression was adjusted to show the dichotomy within his emotions rather than pure joy.

After edits ▸



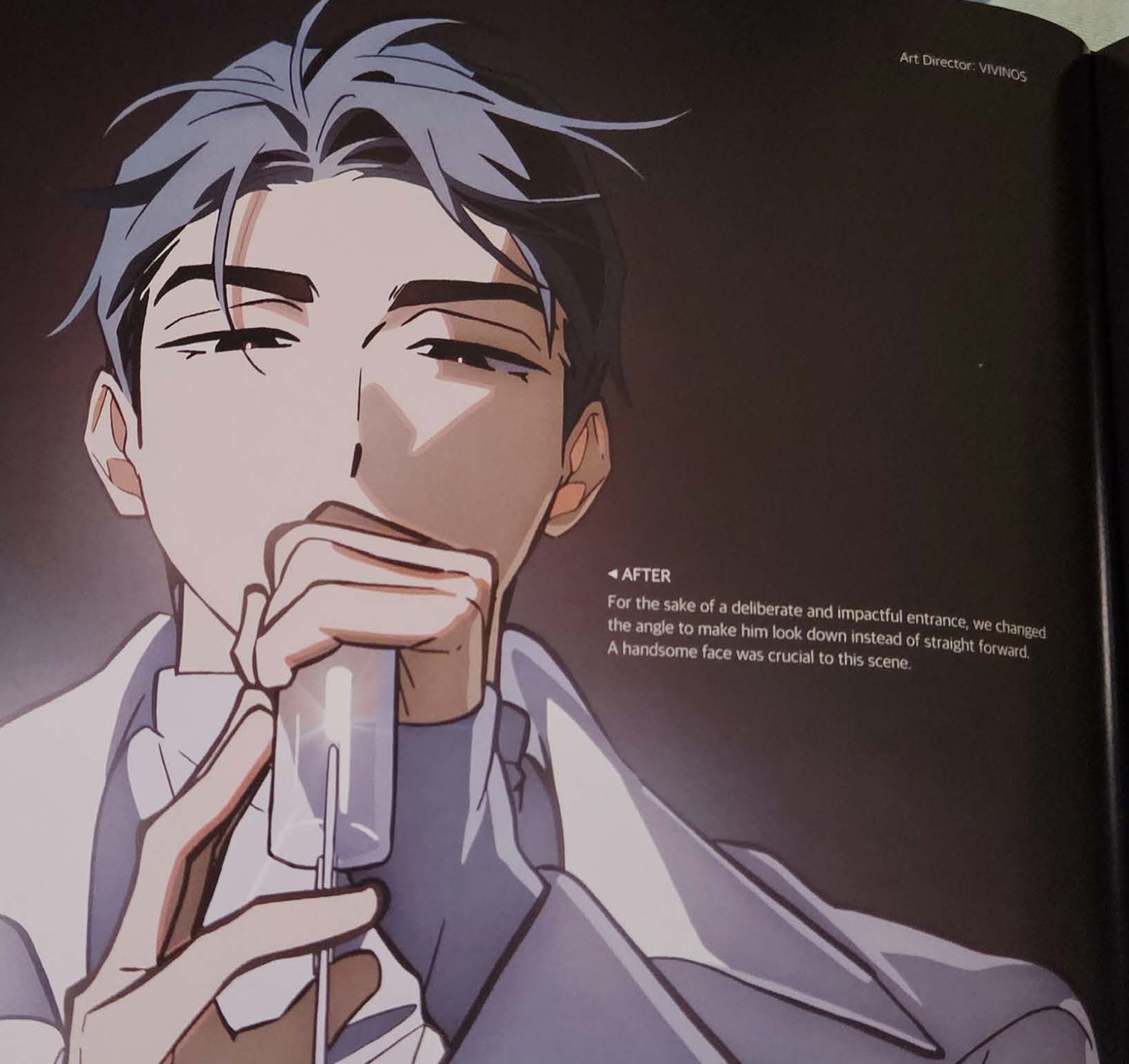
Ivan expresses his feelings by ruthlessly punching Till. We adjusted Ivan's face to show more ecstasy than before. Ivan is hitting Till, but he views this situation as a positive exchange because in this moment Ivan is sharing emotions back and forth with Till.

Art Director: VIVINOS



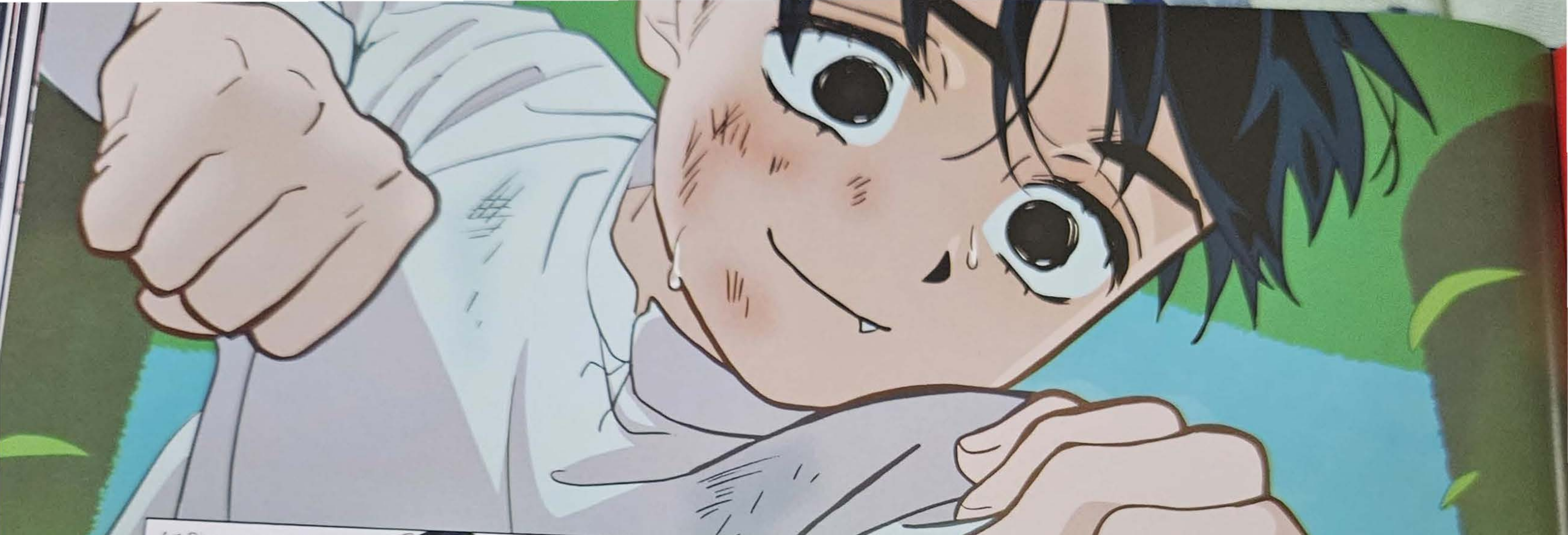
▲ **BEFORE**

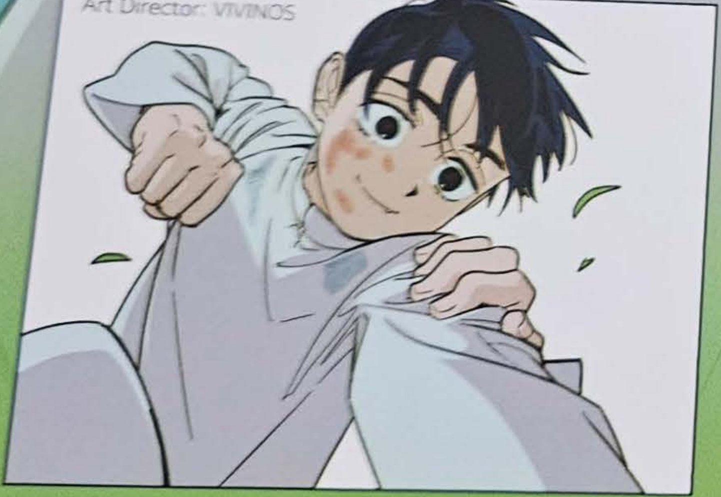
From the early concept, Ivan's entrance needed to be a scene that would awe the viewer.



◀ **AFTER**

For the sake of a deliberate and impactful entrance, we changed the angle to make him look down instead of straight forward. A handsome face was crucial to this scene.



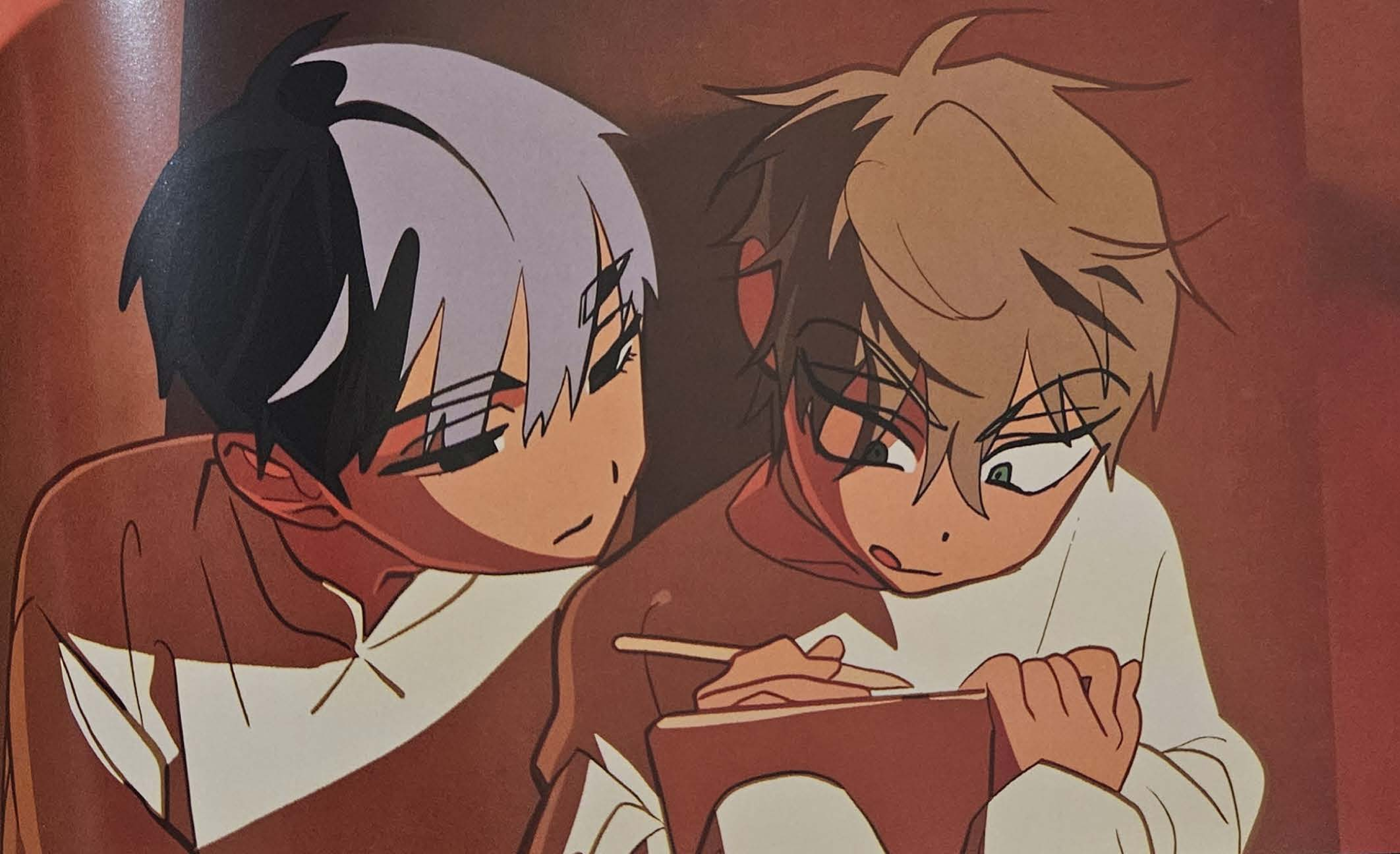


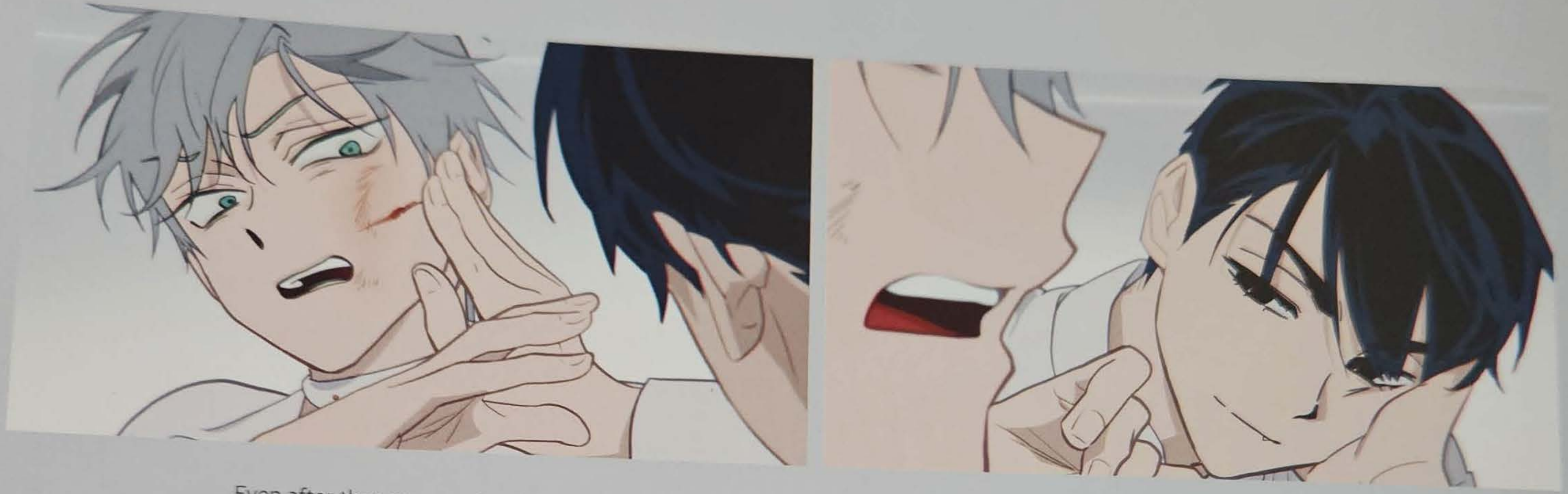
▲ Before edits

We changed his eyes to look a bit more unhinged.

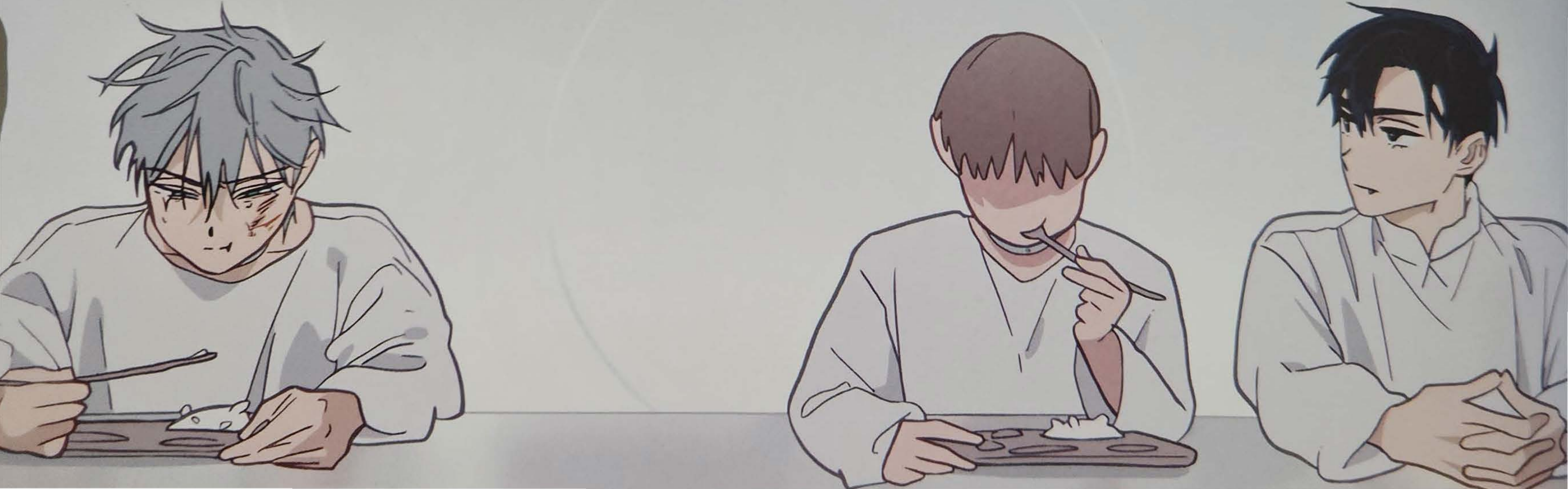
A scene where Ivan's long-hidden feelings are conspicuously brought to light. As someone who always pushed down his own emotions, the only person Ivan could express himself to without holding back was Till. Till may have seen Ivan's violence as a threat, but Ivan considers Till a precious person who faces his emotions head-on.

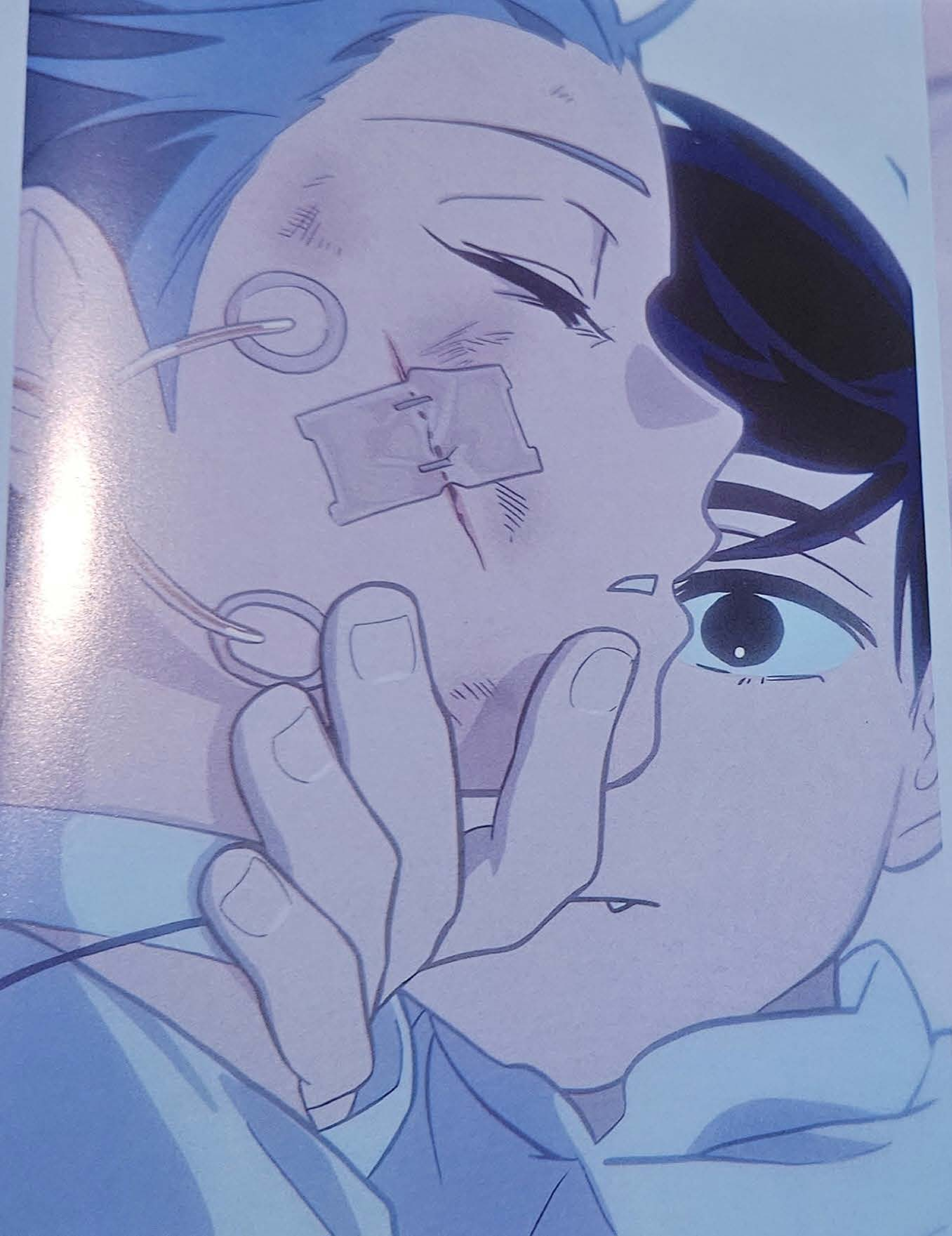
Till was the first person who received Ivan's feelings for what they were, so it was inevitable that Ivan would be drawn to Till.
Ivan would always stick right by Till and pester him, as if asking him to accept his existence.
Ivan was still too young to be able to properly convey his emotions, so he just quietly followed Till around, much to Till's confusion.

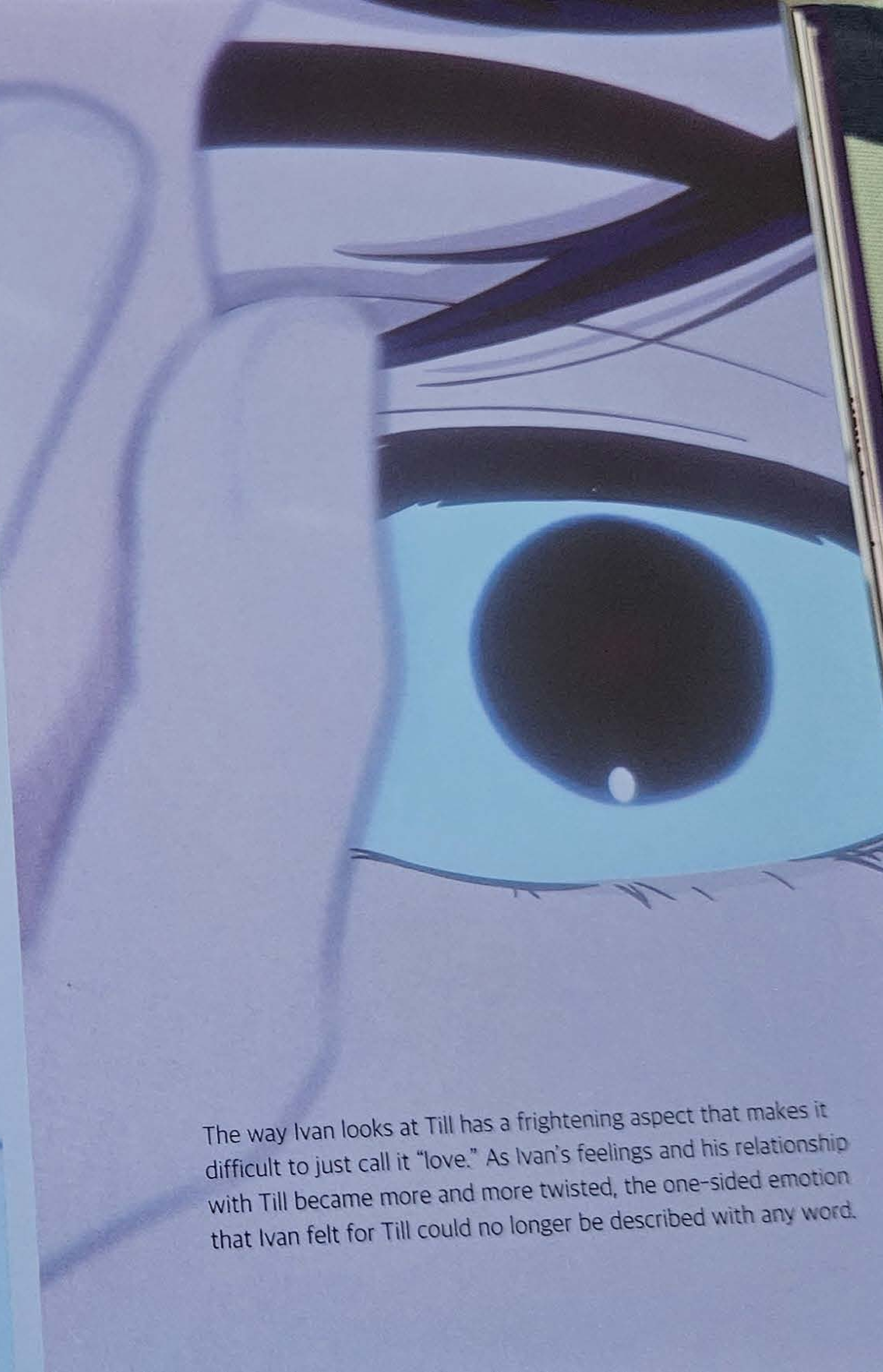




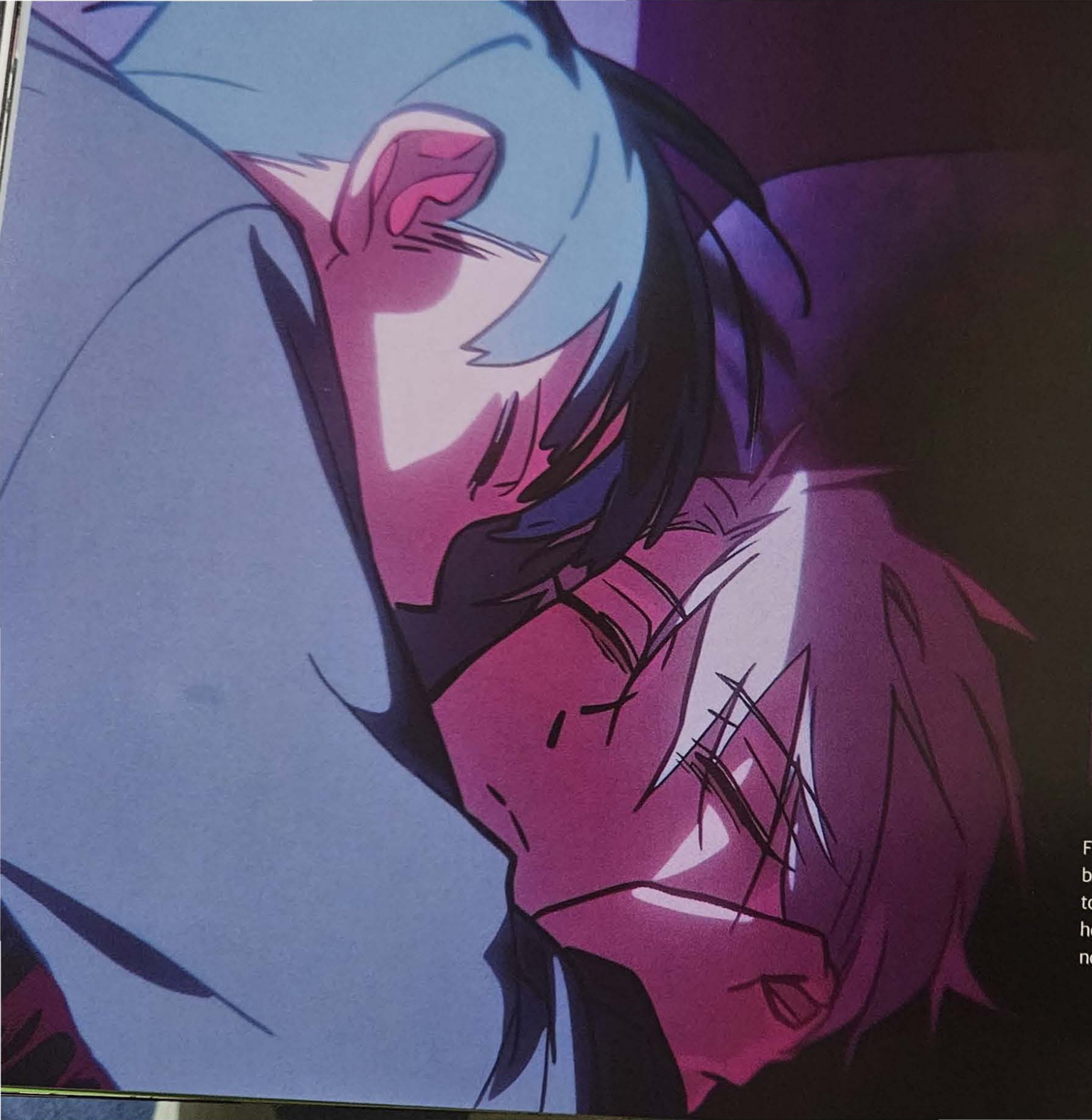
Even after they grew up, Ivan's strange actions continued. Ivan would discreetly mess with Till where no one could see them, and the increasing extremity of Ivan's provocations made Till eventually decide to ignore him.

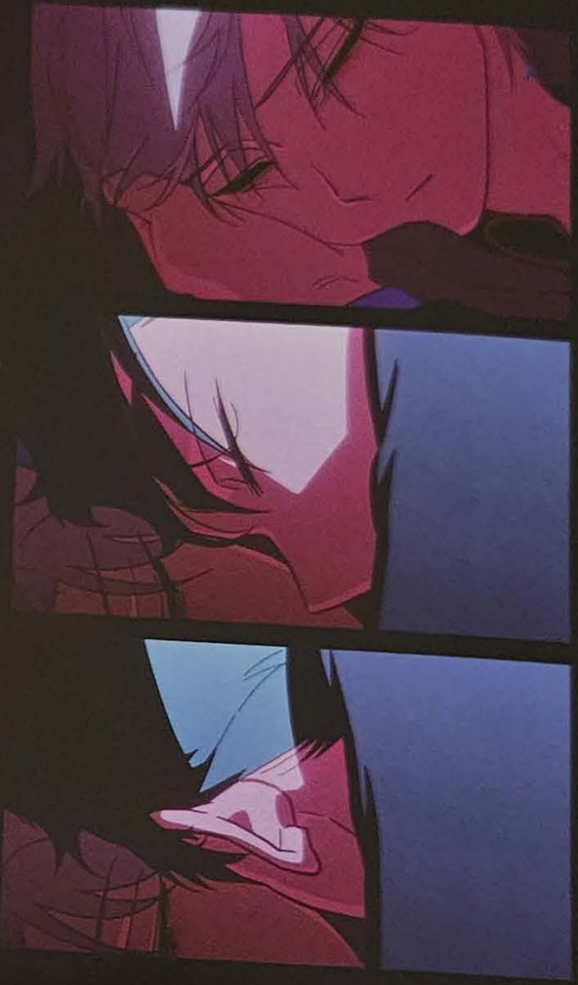




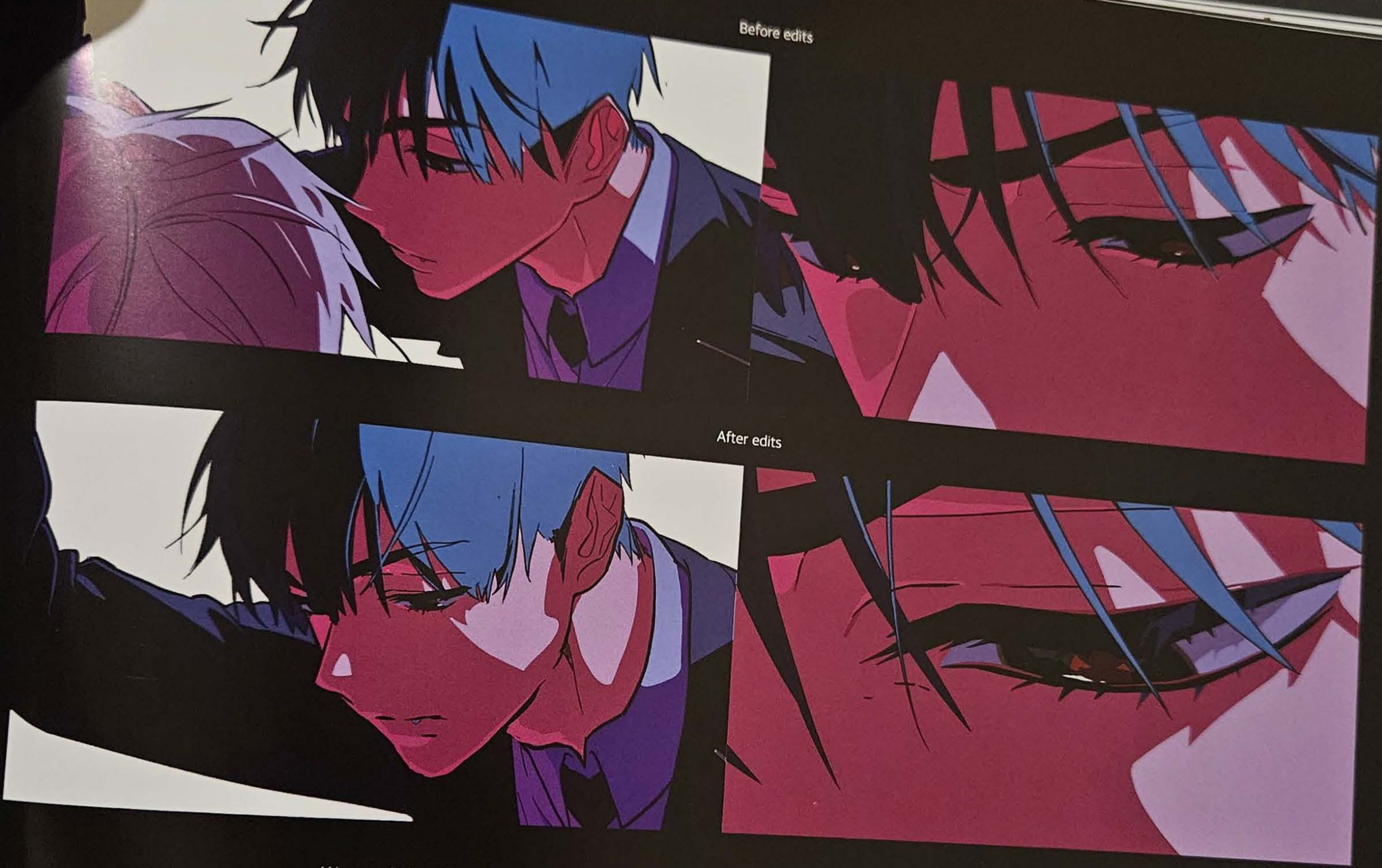


The way Ivan looks at Till has a frightening aspect that makes it difficult to just call it "love." As Ivan's feelings and his relationship with Till became more and more twisted, the one-sided emotion that Ivan felt for Till could no longer be described with any word.





For the children in Anakt Garden who physically grew but remained mentally stagnant, they had no idea how to properly express their own feelings. If Ivan just knew how to properly get closer to Till, their relationship may not have ended in such an unfortunate way.

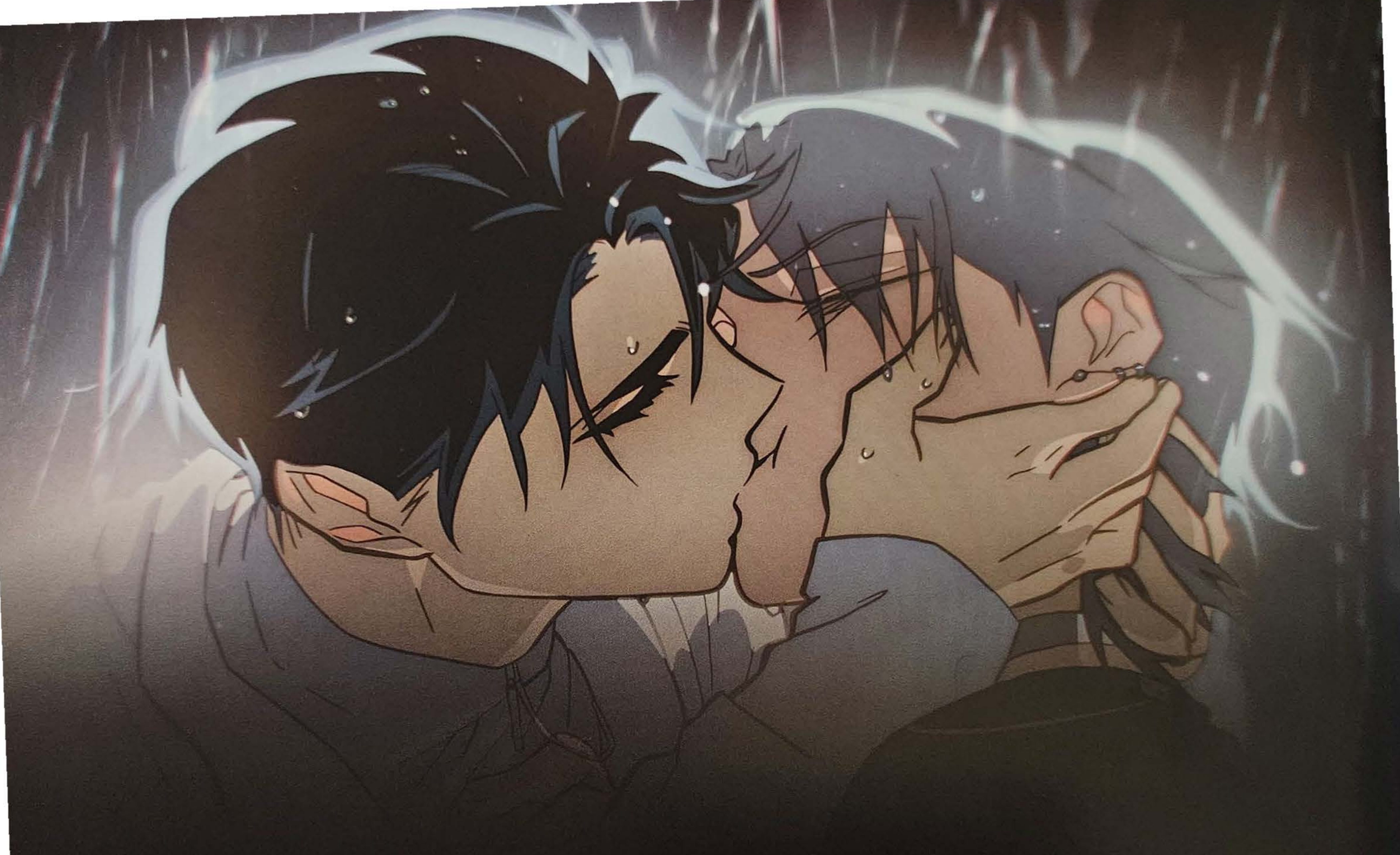


Before edits

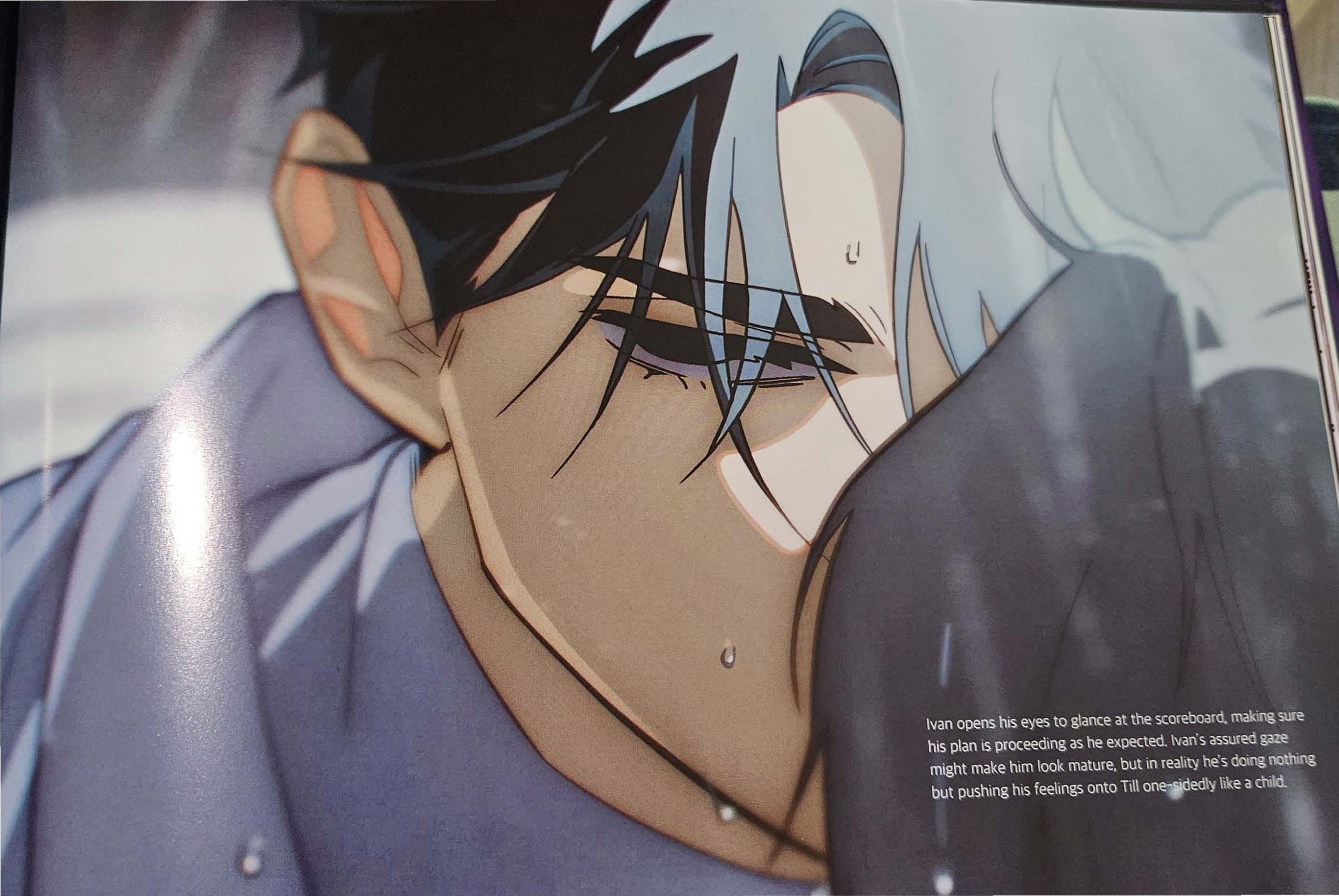
After edits

We needed to be able to more clearly see Ivan's complicated expression while looking at Till. As we made adjustments to make Ivan's eye easier to see, his sympathy and rage became more pronounced.

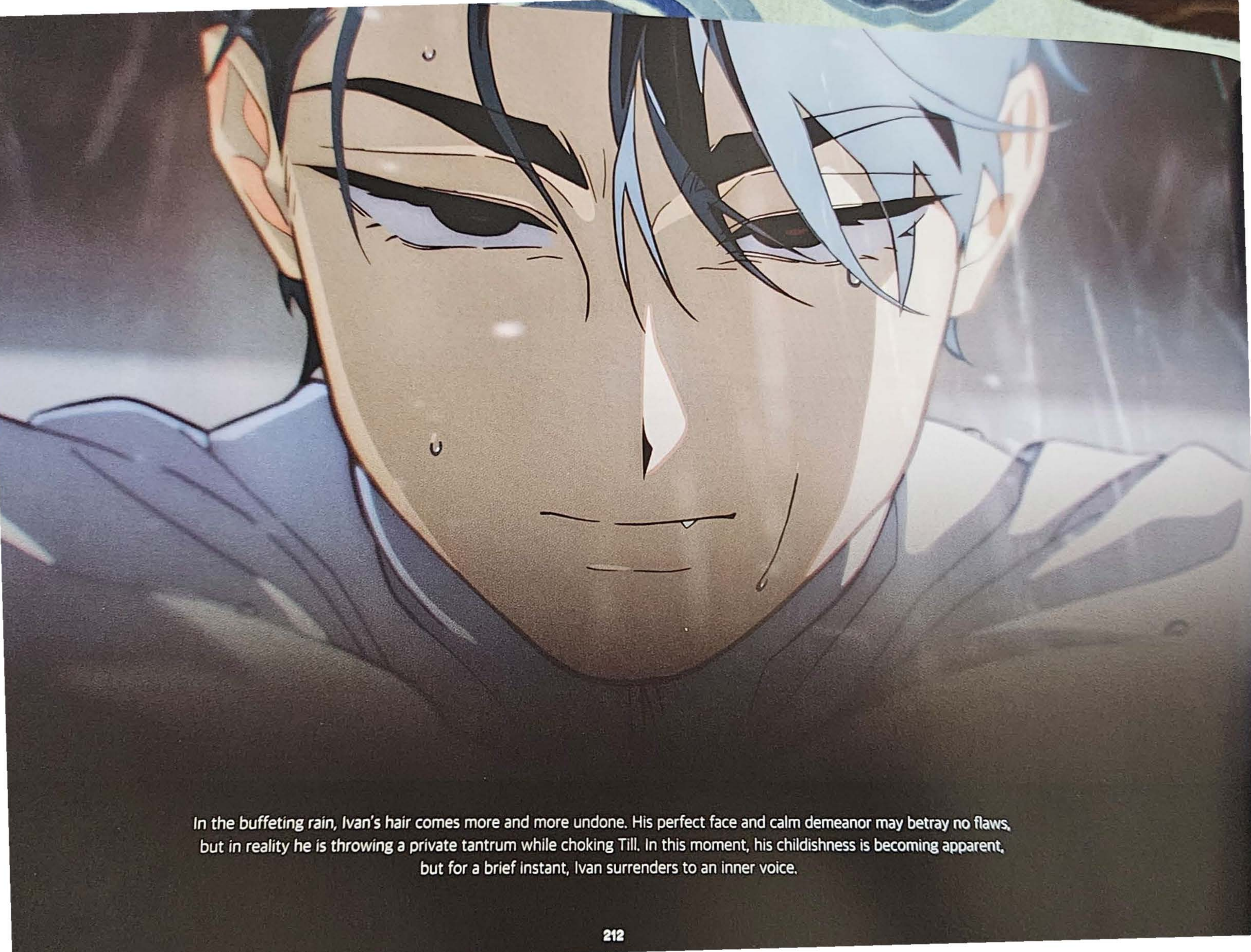
Art Director: VIVINOS



"Locking lips" was a very unfamiliar concept to the humans of this time. There was a time in Anakt Garden when kissing someone on the cheek became a trend, and this was what planted a certain idea in Ivan's head. Ivan's unexpected actions made for a great showing to shock the Segyein. This was something Ivan put a great deal of thought into, and it couldn't end as just a simple kiss. This was the moment where he needed to act as if overwhelmed by a whirlwind of emotions.



Ivan opens his eyes to glance at the scoreboard, making sure his plan is proceeding as he expected. Ivan's assured gaze might make him look mature, but in reality he's doing nothing but pushing his feelings onto Till one-sidedly like a child.

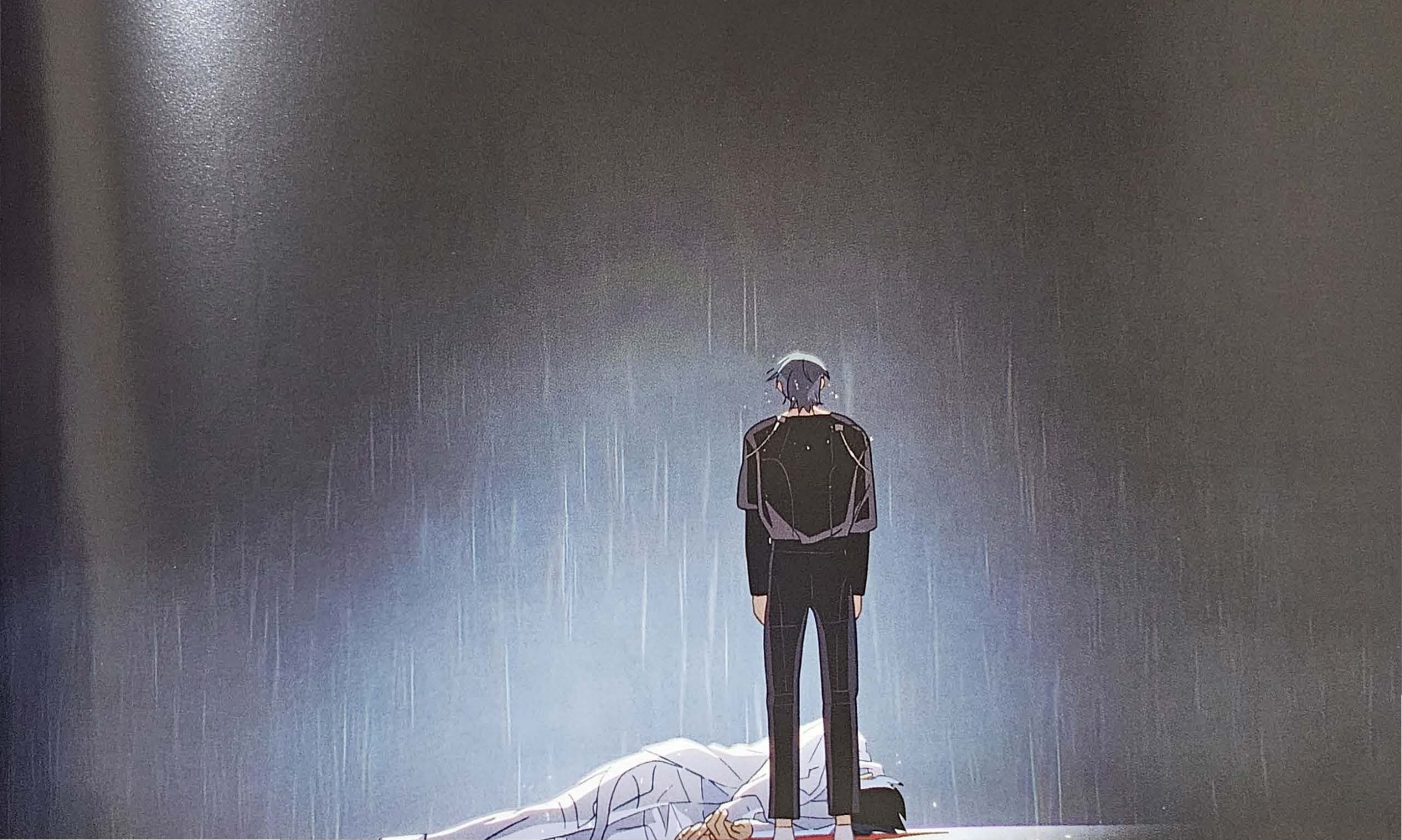


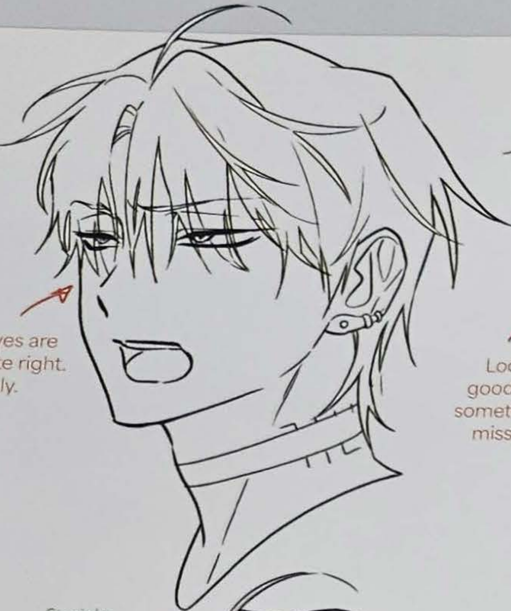
In the buffeting rain, Ivan's hair comes more and more undone. His perfect face and calm demeanor may betray no flaws, but in reality he is throwing a private tantrum while choking Till. In this moment, his childishness is becoming apparent, but for a brief instant, Ivan surrenders to an inner voice.

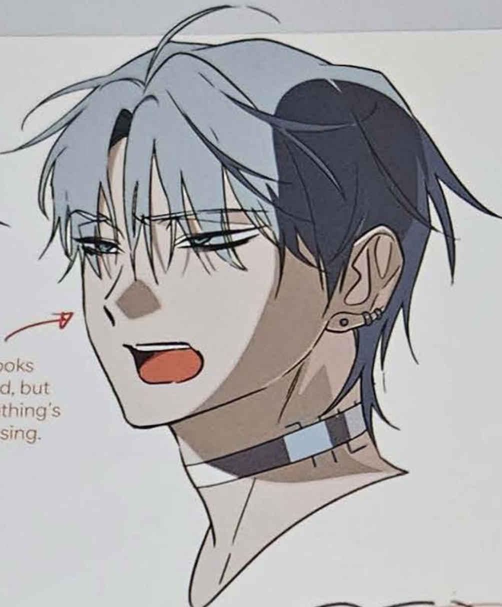
Ivan's face distorts as he stares at Till, and the certainty he once held comes falling apart. No one will ever know what Ivan felt as he bled out with a bittersweet smile. We wanted to capture a deep and unfathomable emotion that only he himself could understand. Ivan and Sua may seem similar in that they both express their emotions one-sidedly and die, but the truth and context of their actions could not be more different.

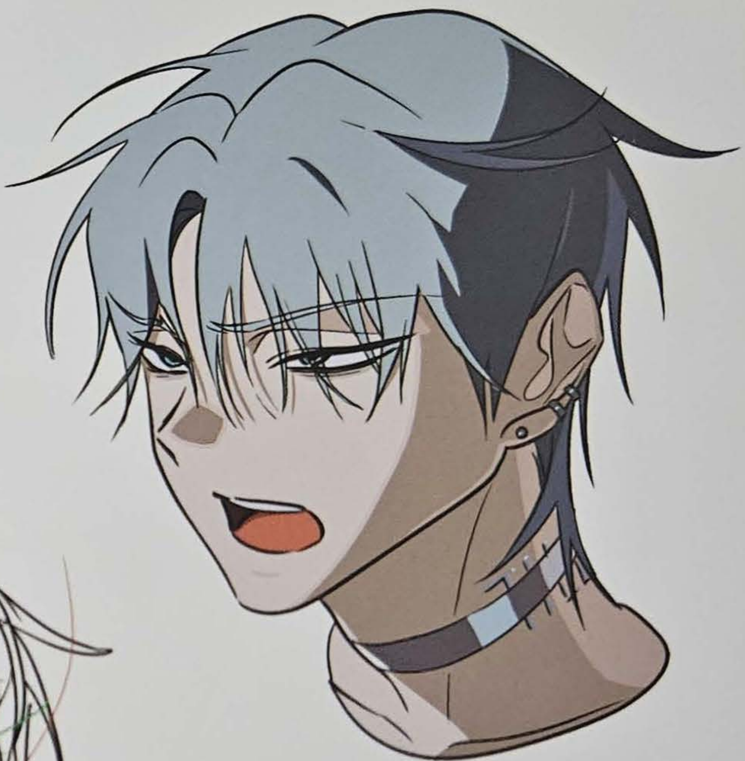
Till has no way to understand or process everything that just happened. He stands there dumbfounded as he witnesses Ivan's death.

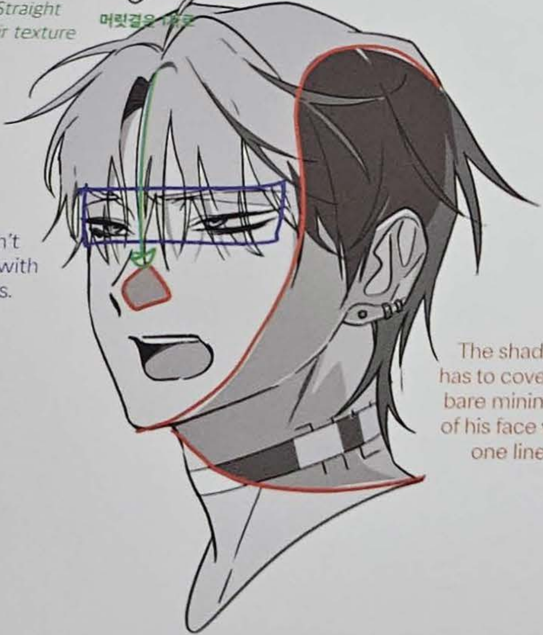
On this stage where one cannot differentiate between the cheers of the audience and the pounding rain,
Till's thoughts come to a halt, as if time itself had stopped.
The death that unfolded before him was something that Till could not handle in this moment.

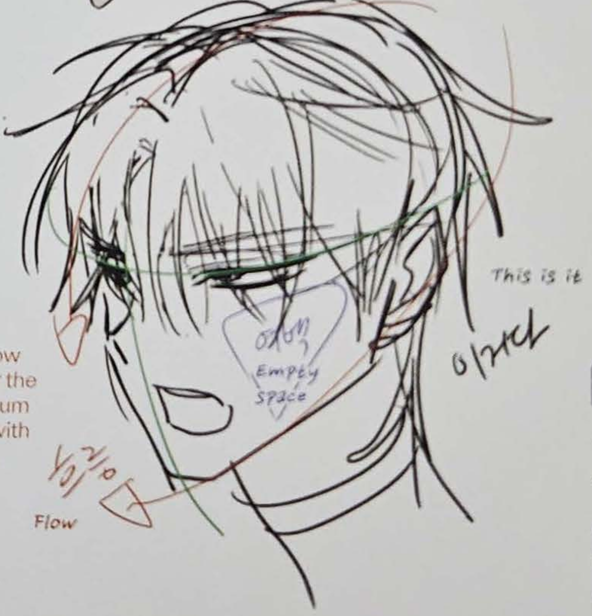



The eyes are not quite right. Ugly.


Looks good, but something's missing.



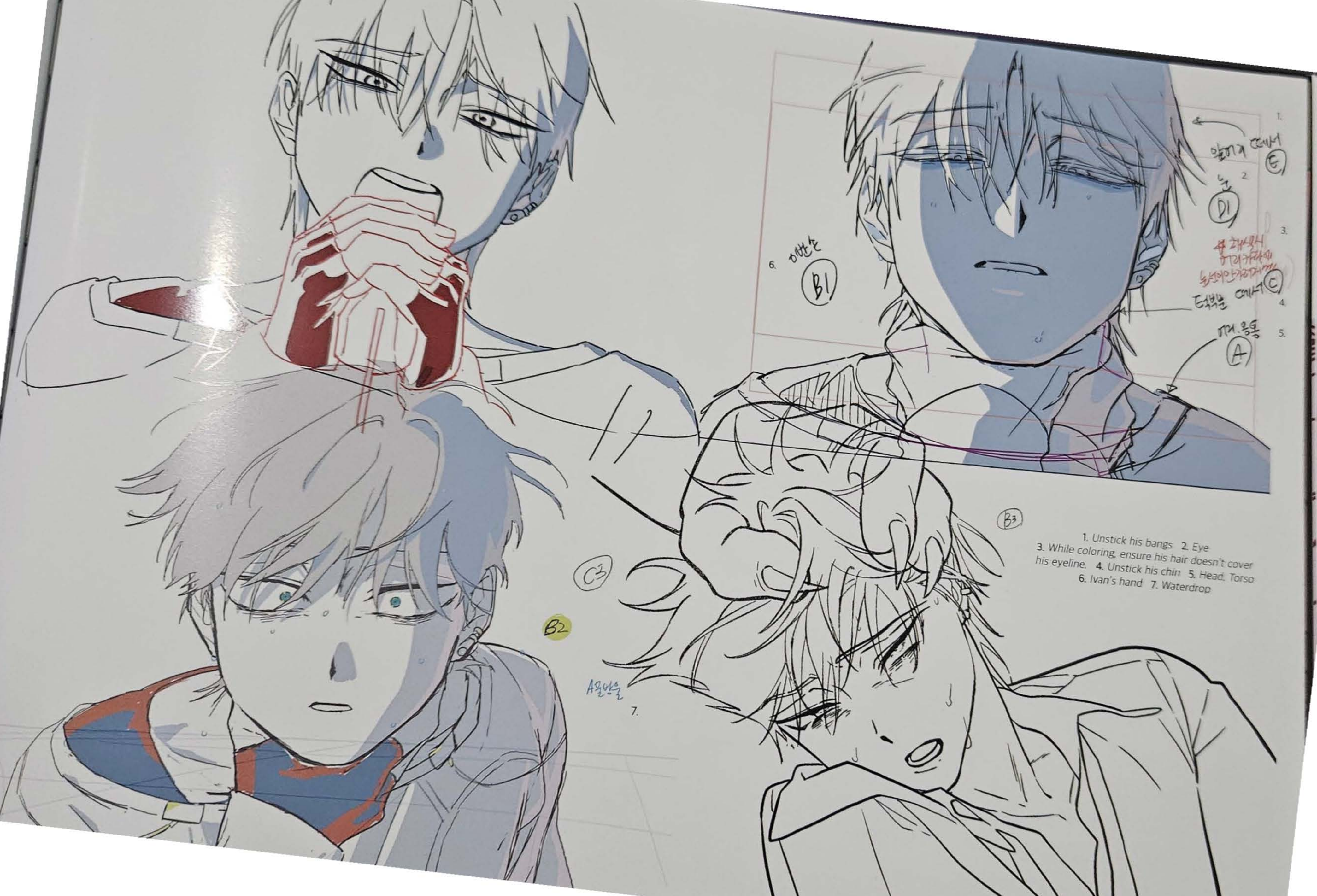

Straight hair texture
머릿결은 1자로
We can't interfere with his eyes.
The shadow has to cover the bare minimum of his face with one line.


여백
Empty space
This is it
이거다
흐름
Flow

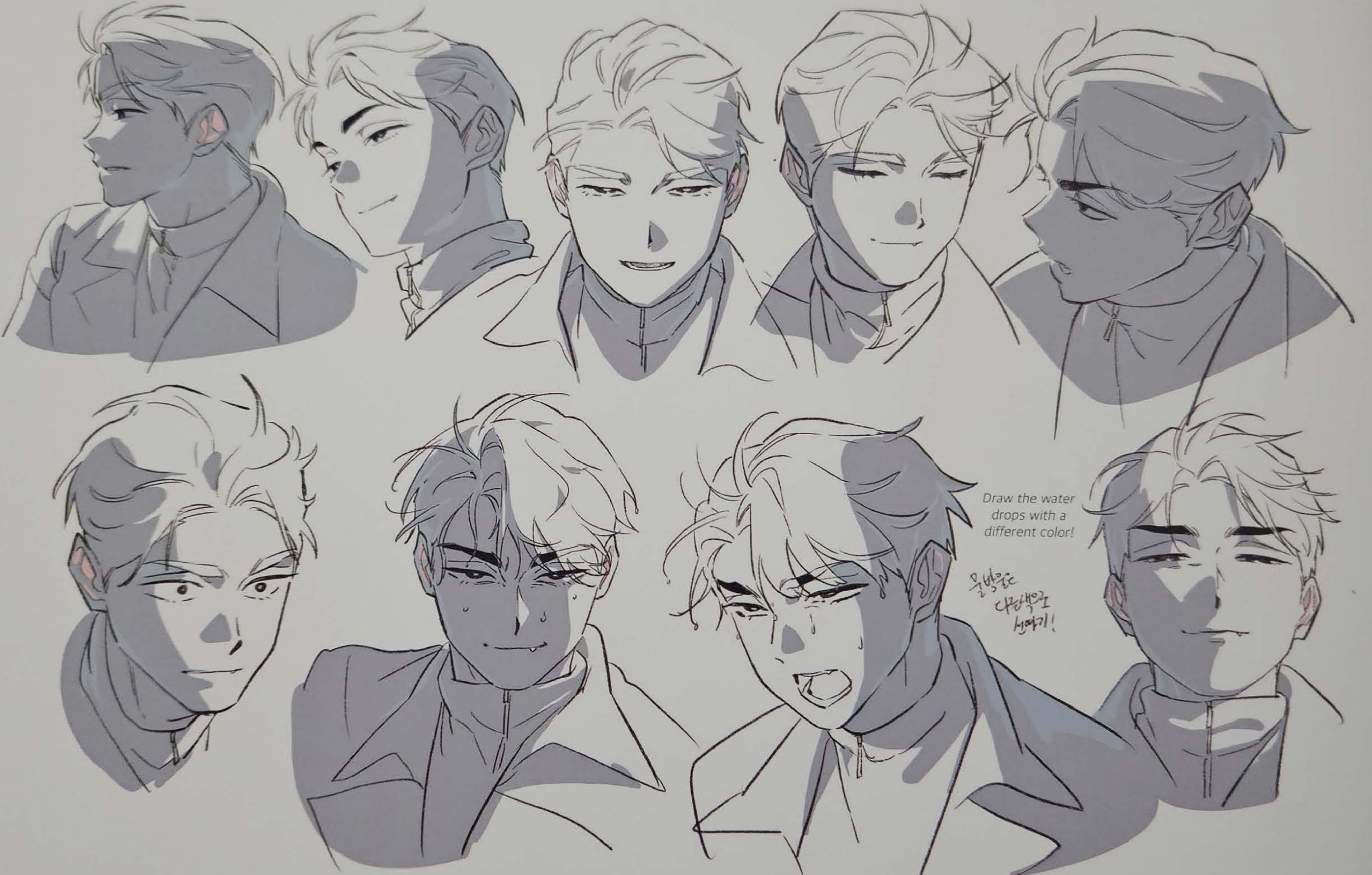
Analyzing Till's face

By Co-Director QMENG

Thanks to Director VIVINOS's stubborn pursuit of "handsomeness," I had to take the canvases home with me after work to analyze Till's handsome face. I needed to keep the magnification and angle in mind in order to make Till's face pop, but I just couldn't draw the way I imagined it. I cursed my lack of skill as I worked, but it became a good learning opportunity.


1.
앞머리 떼서
E
2.
눈
D1
3.
채색시 머리카락이 눈선에 안가리게
C
턱부분 떼서
4.
머리, 몸통
A
5.
6.
이반손
B1
B3
C3
B2
A물방울
7.

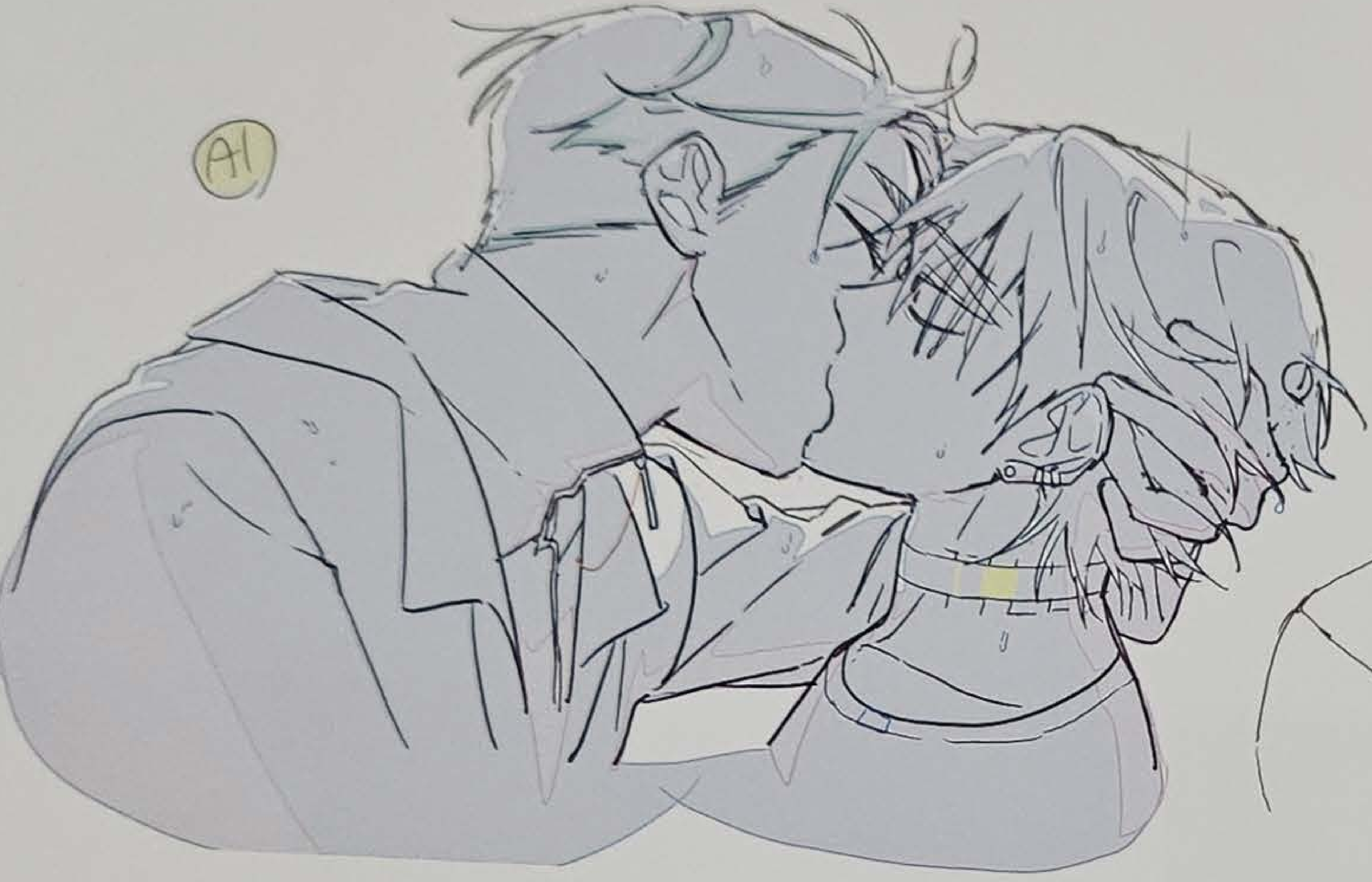
1. Unstick his bangs 2. Eye
3. While coloring, ensure his hair doesn't cover his eyeline. 4. Unstick his chin 5. Head, Torso
6. Ivan's hand 7. Waterdrop

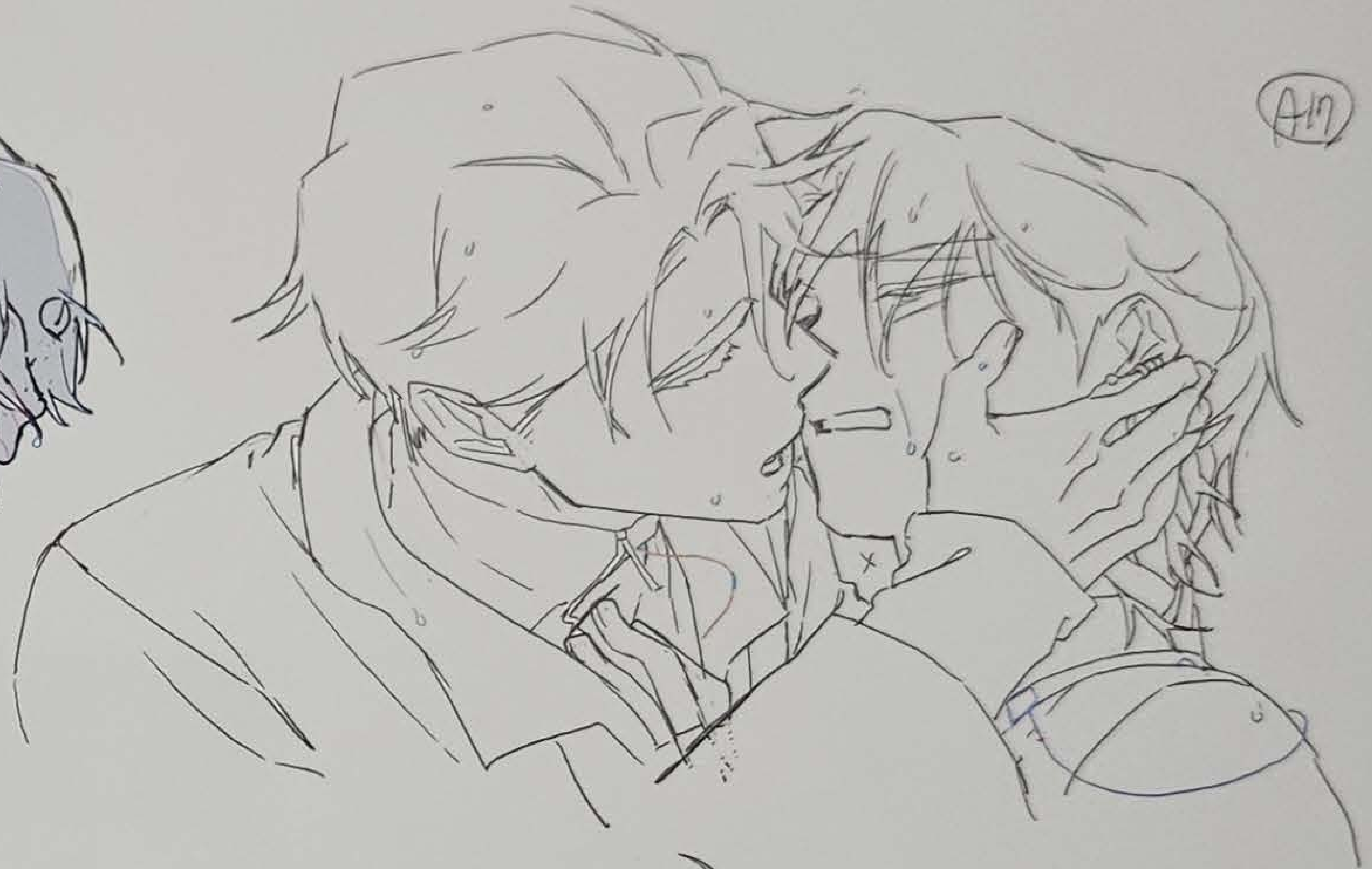


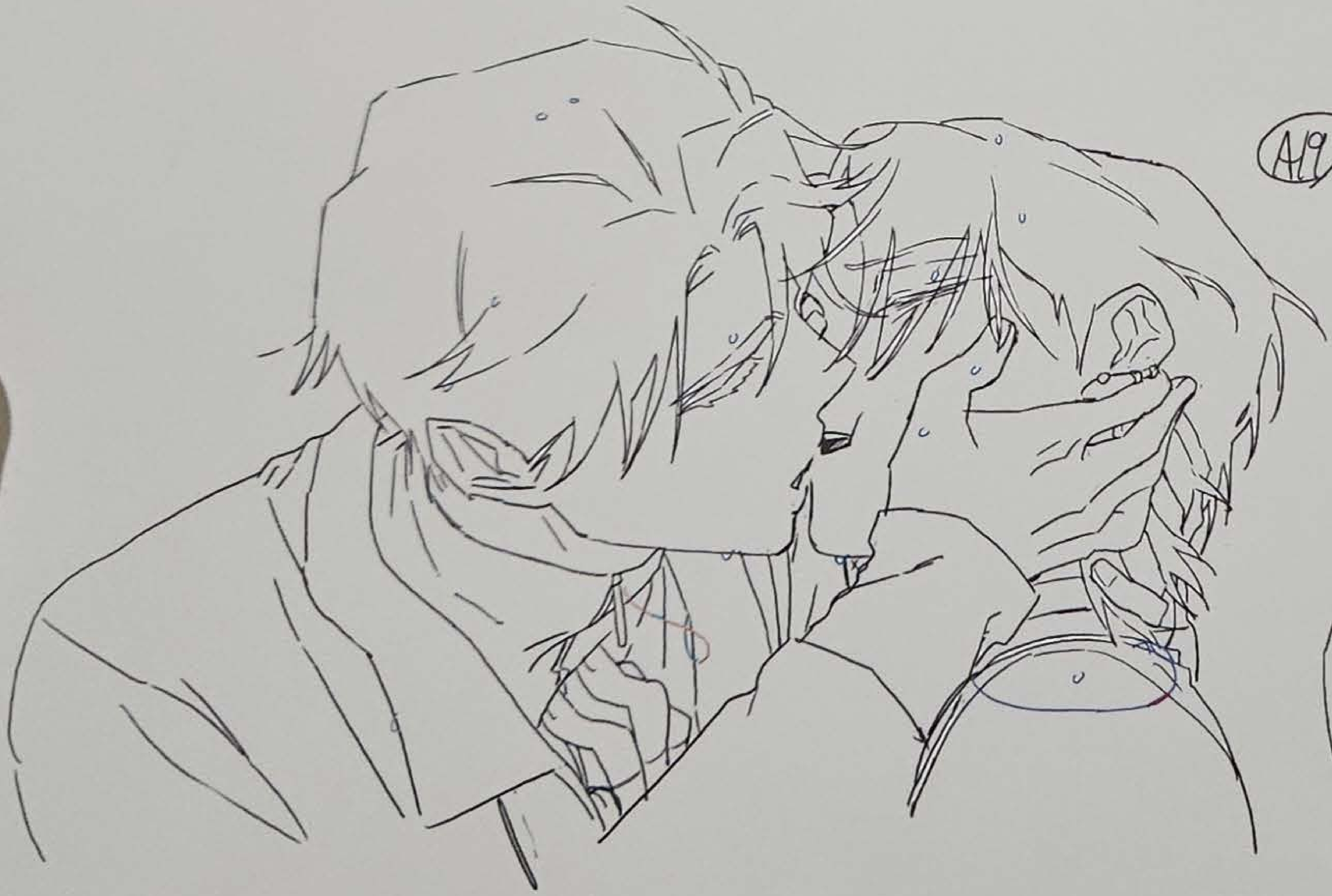
Draw the water
drops with a
different color!

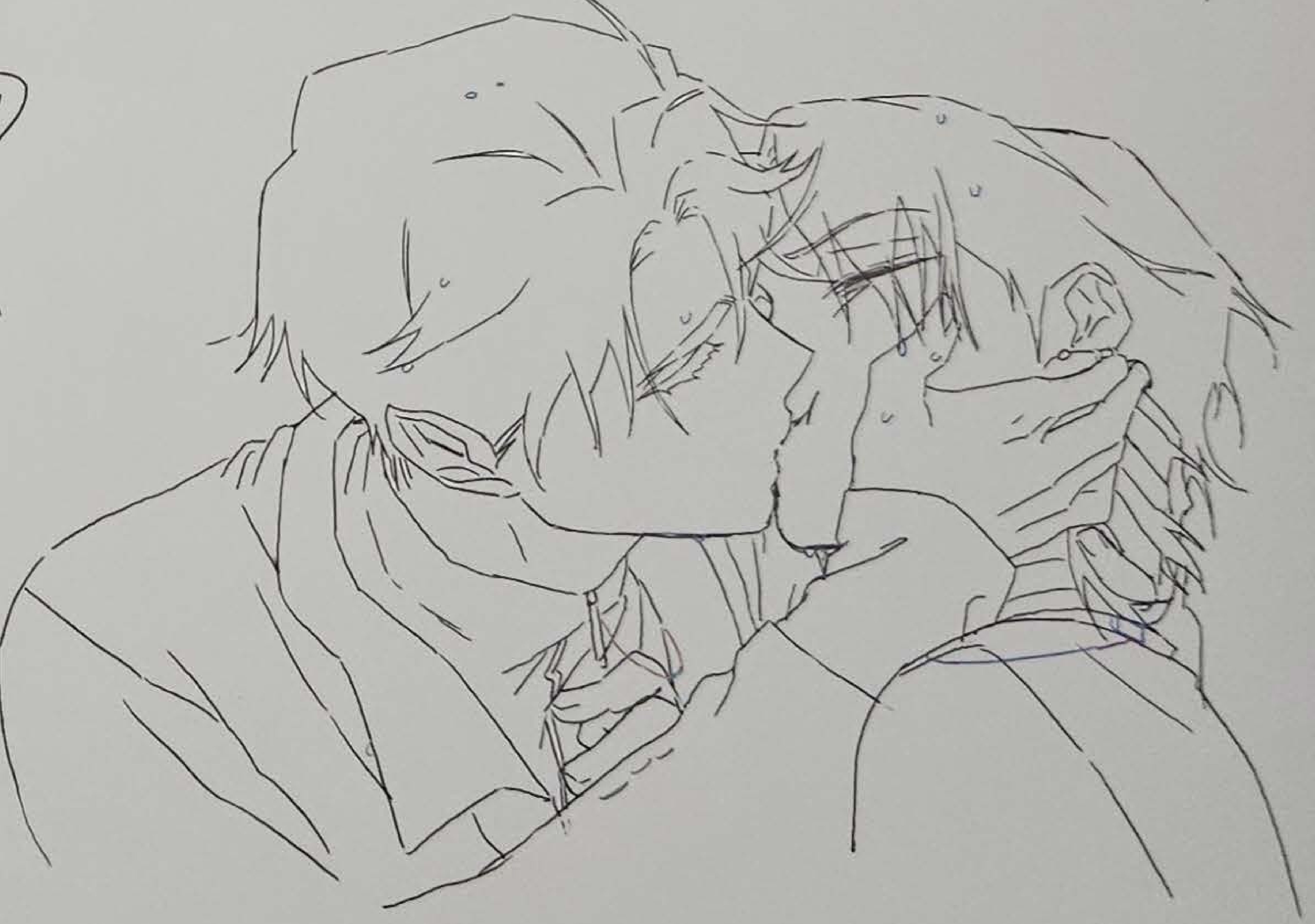
물방울도
다른색으로
선따기!

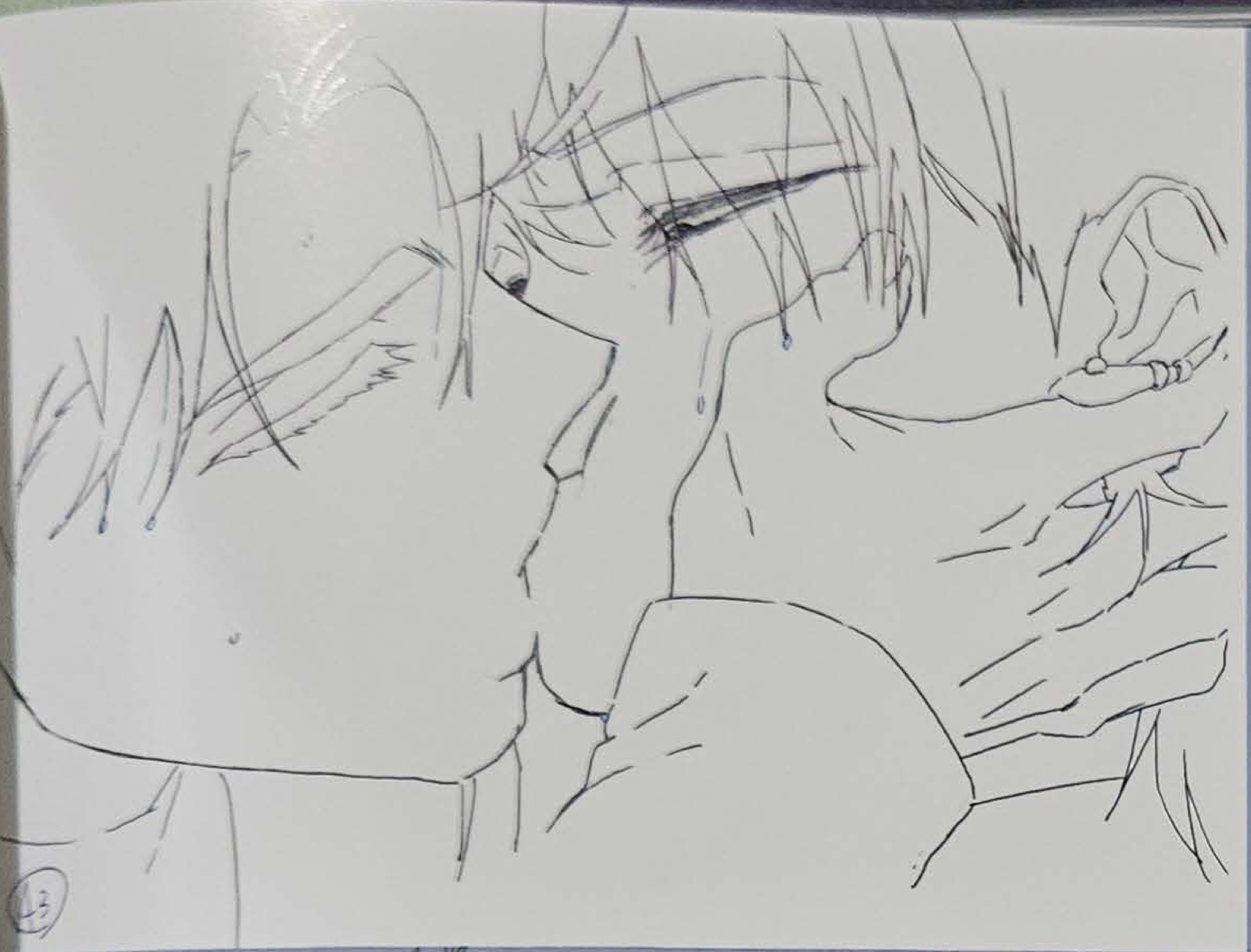
A4
B2
B1
A1
A11

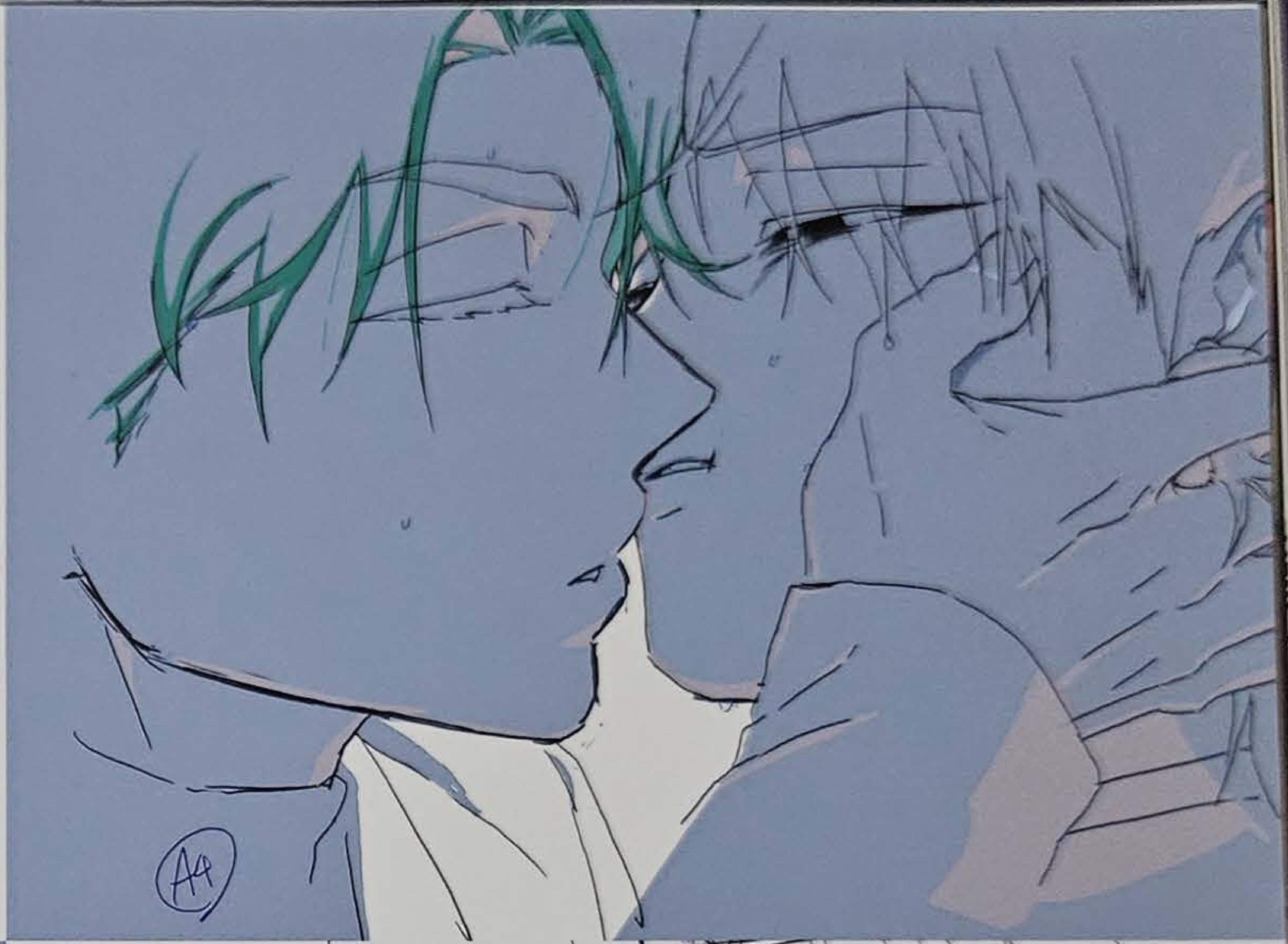

A1

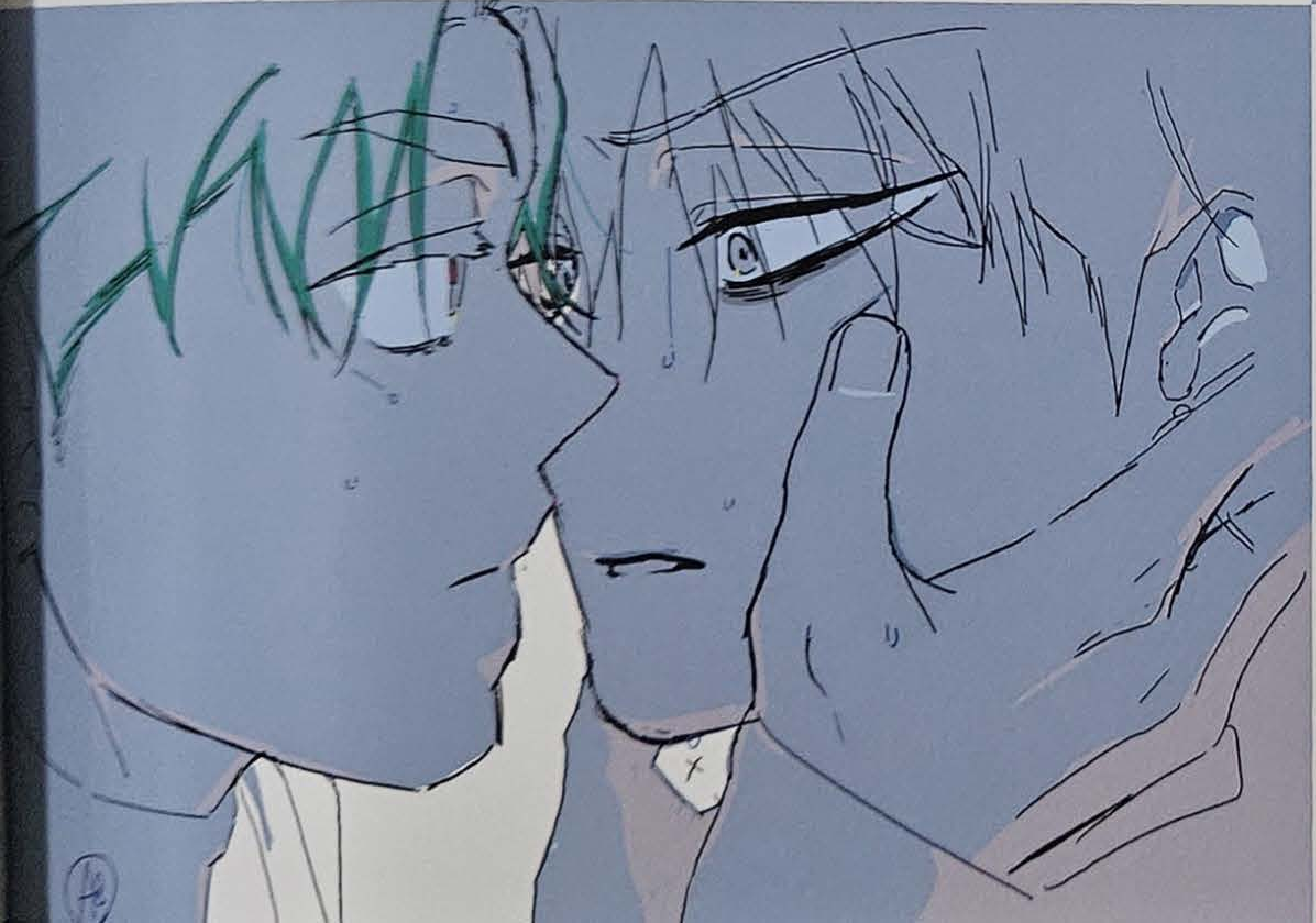

A17

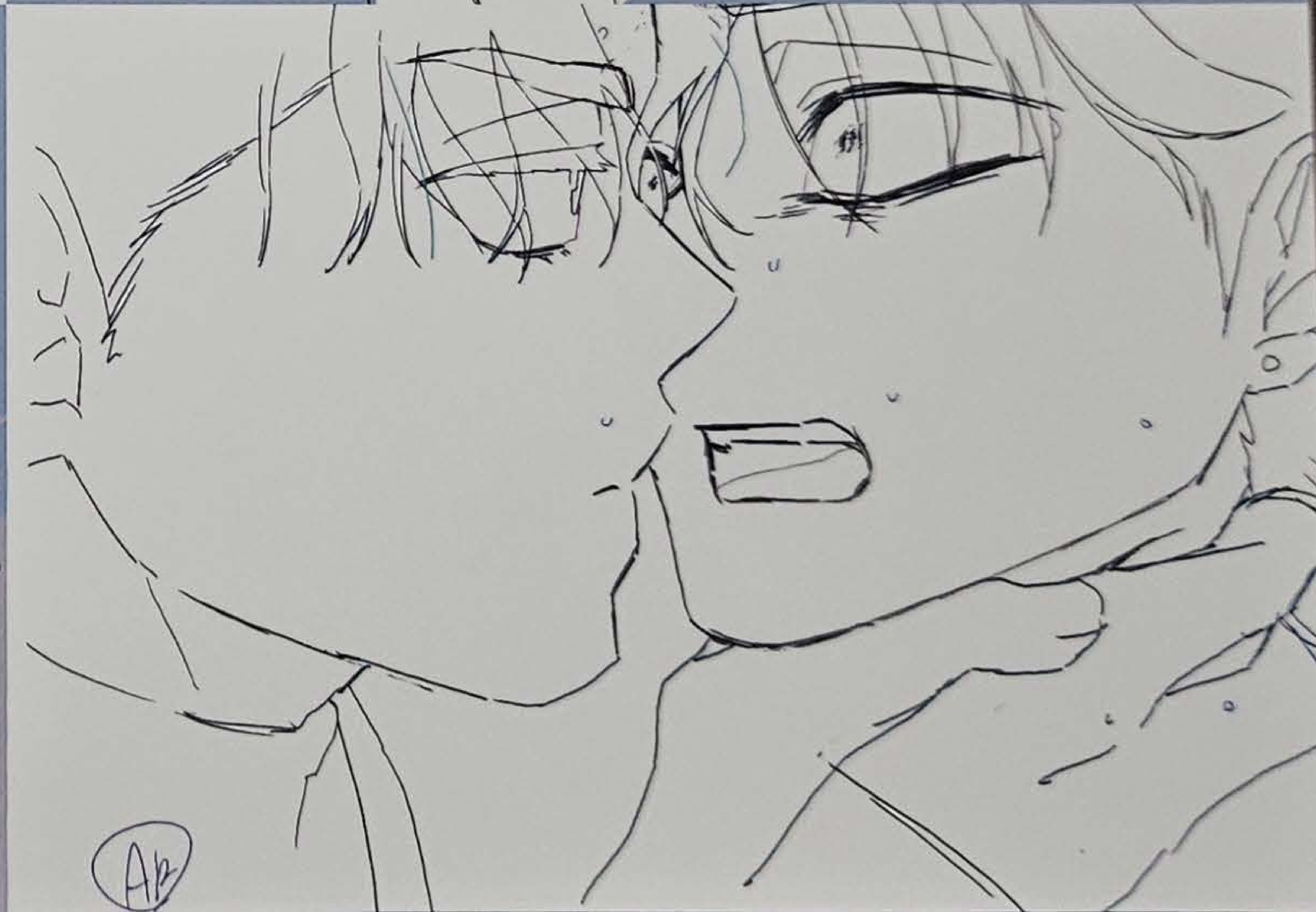

A19

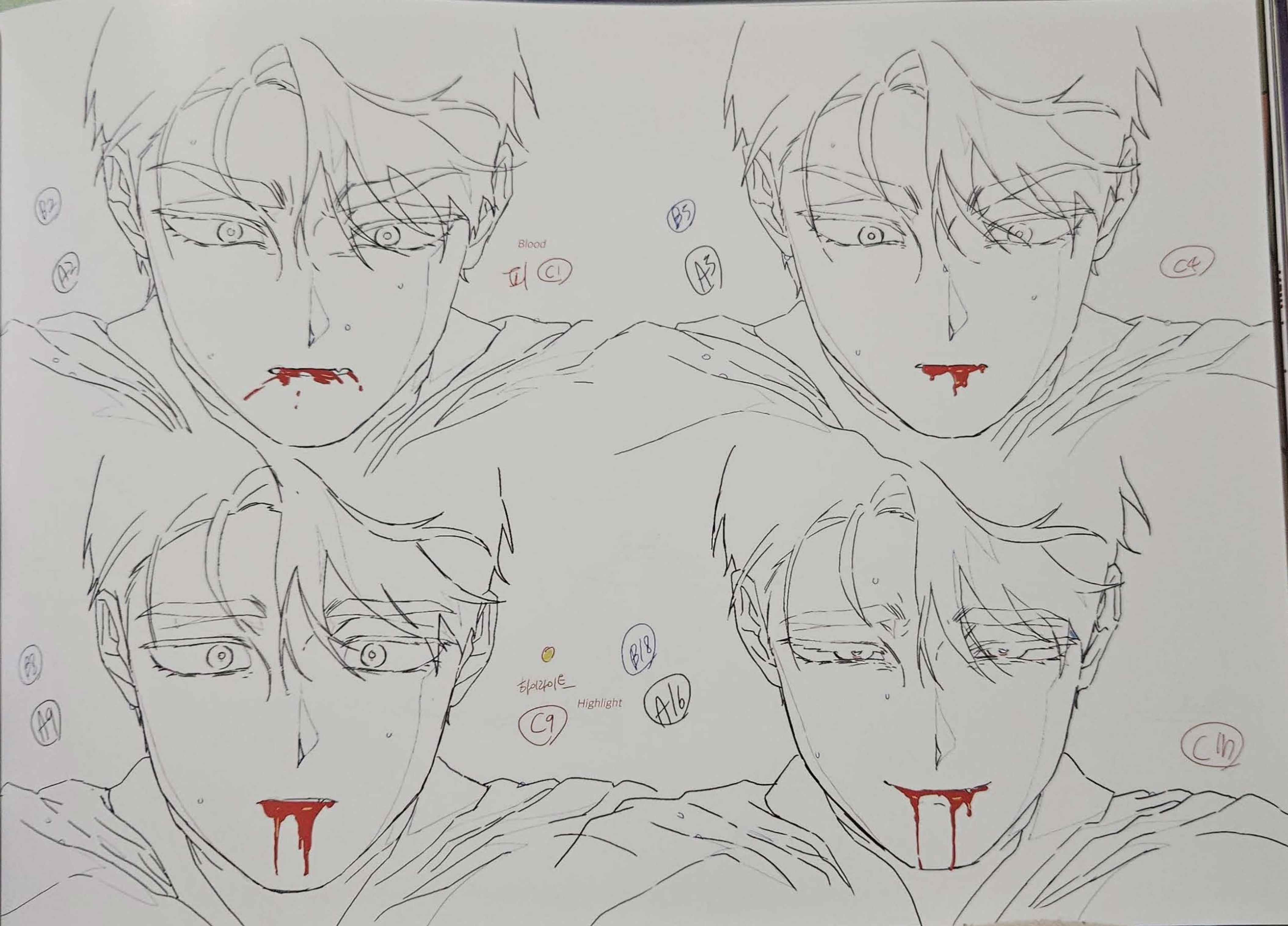



A3

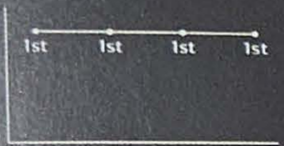

A4

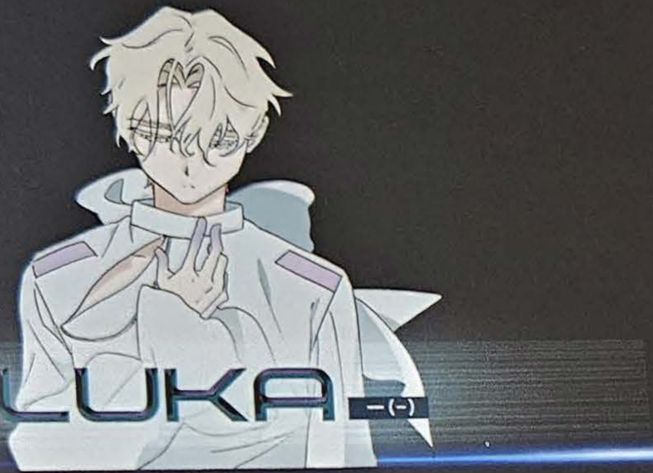



A6


B2
A2
Blood
피
C1
B5
A3
C4
B8
A9
하이라이트
Highlight
C9
B18
A16
C16

TOP 1

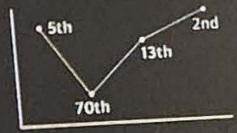


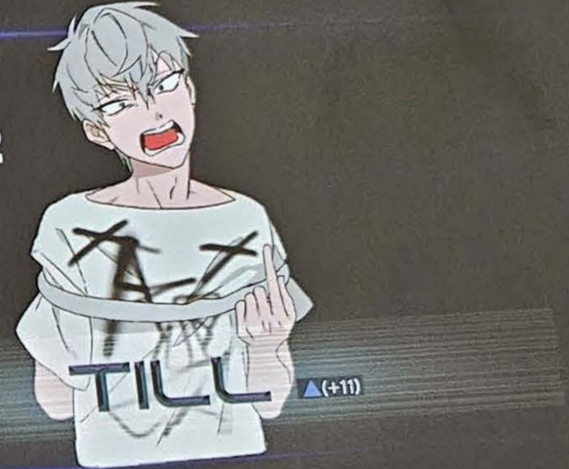


#PreviousALNSTWinner #EmperorOfTheStage #UnendingPeak

A legendary star who has yet to get anything other than first place since his Anakt days. Among all the humans and Segyein, a star with this much influence is nearly unheard of. He's even inspired a new term called "Luka Syndrome." Even the smallest actions from Luka incite raucous cheer.

TOP 2

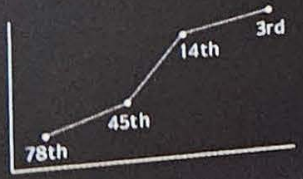


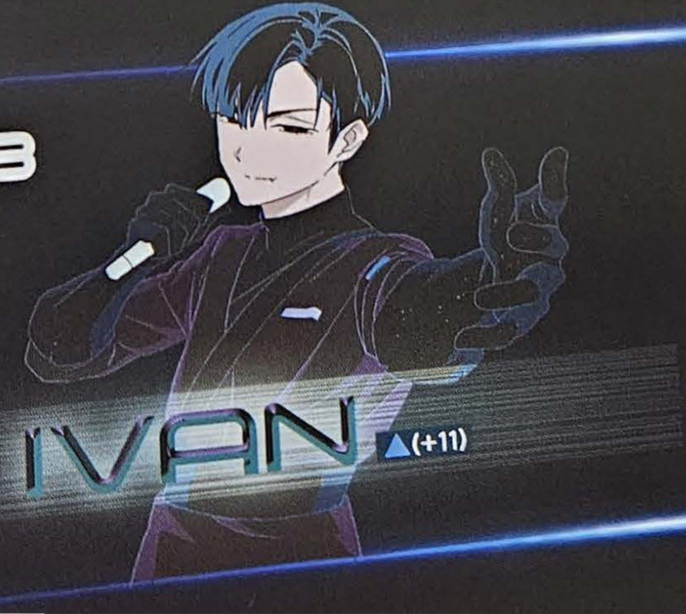


#MonstrousRookie #GeniusArtist #Troublemaker

With a shocking debut performance where he murdered a Segyein, Till received countless complaints for him to be removed from Alien Stage. Even with this controversy, he has hit number 1 on multiple charts and number 1 for first-quarter album sales, proving his genius compositional talent and skills on the stage.

TOP 3



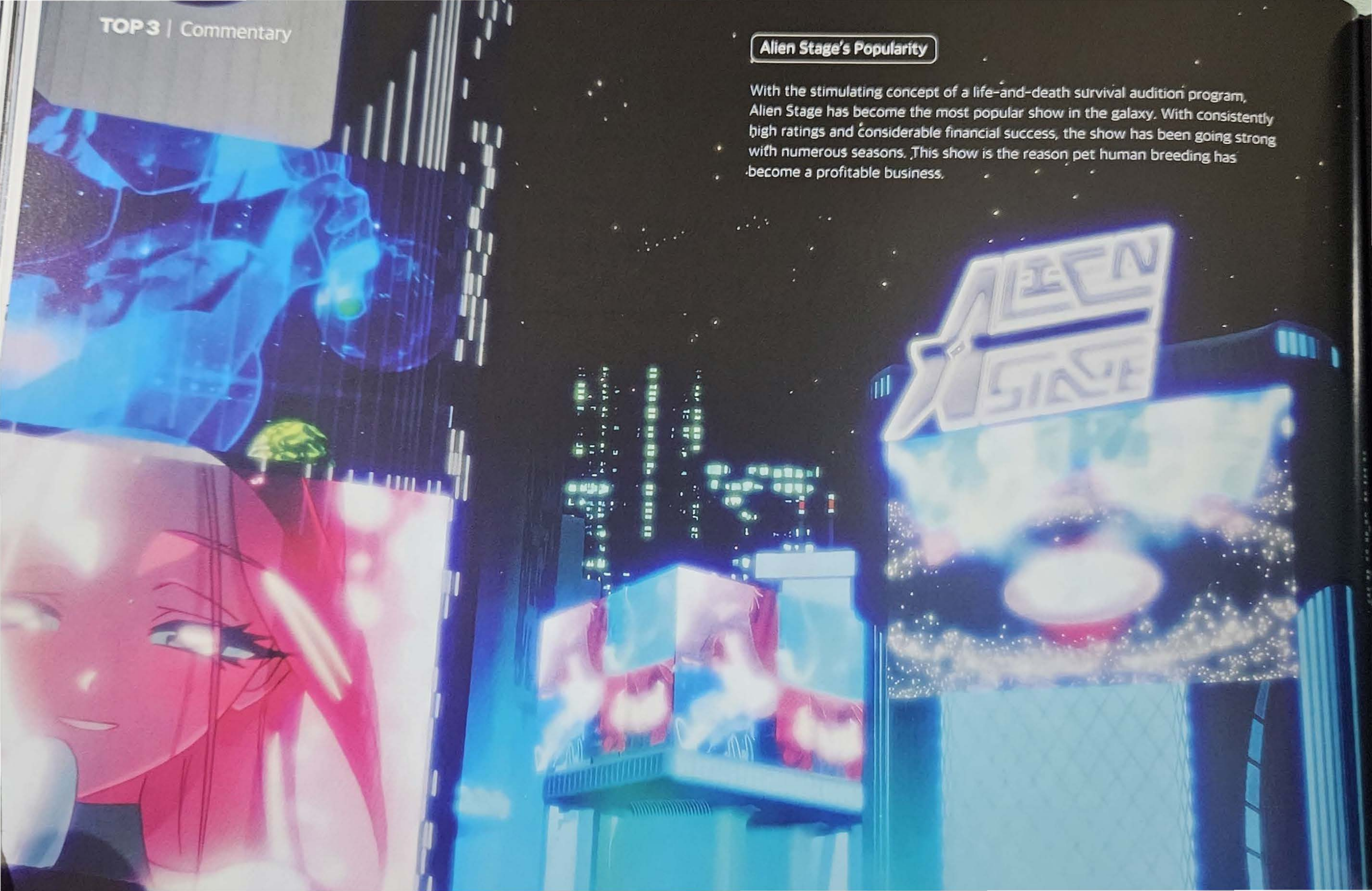


#Blocell'sNumber1BrandValue #SearchingForMoreBrands #NextGenerationCommercialStar

As a contestant who didn't immediately make a splash, Ivan initially had low ratings. As he slowly climbed the rankings, he garnered a reliable reputation and established himself as a likeable rising star. He is currently being contacted for multiple brand deals, and his handsome face and gentle personality make him popular among the Segyein.

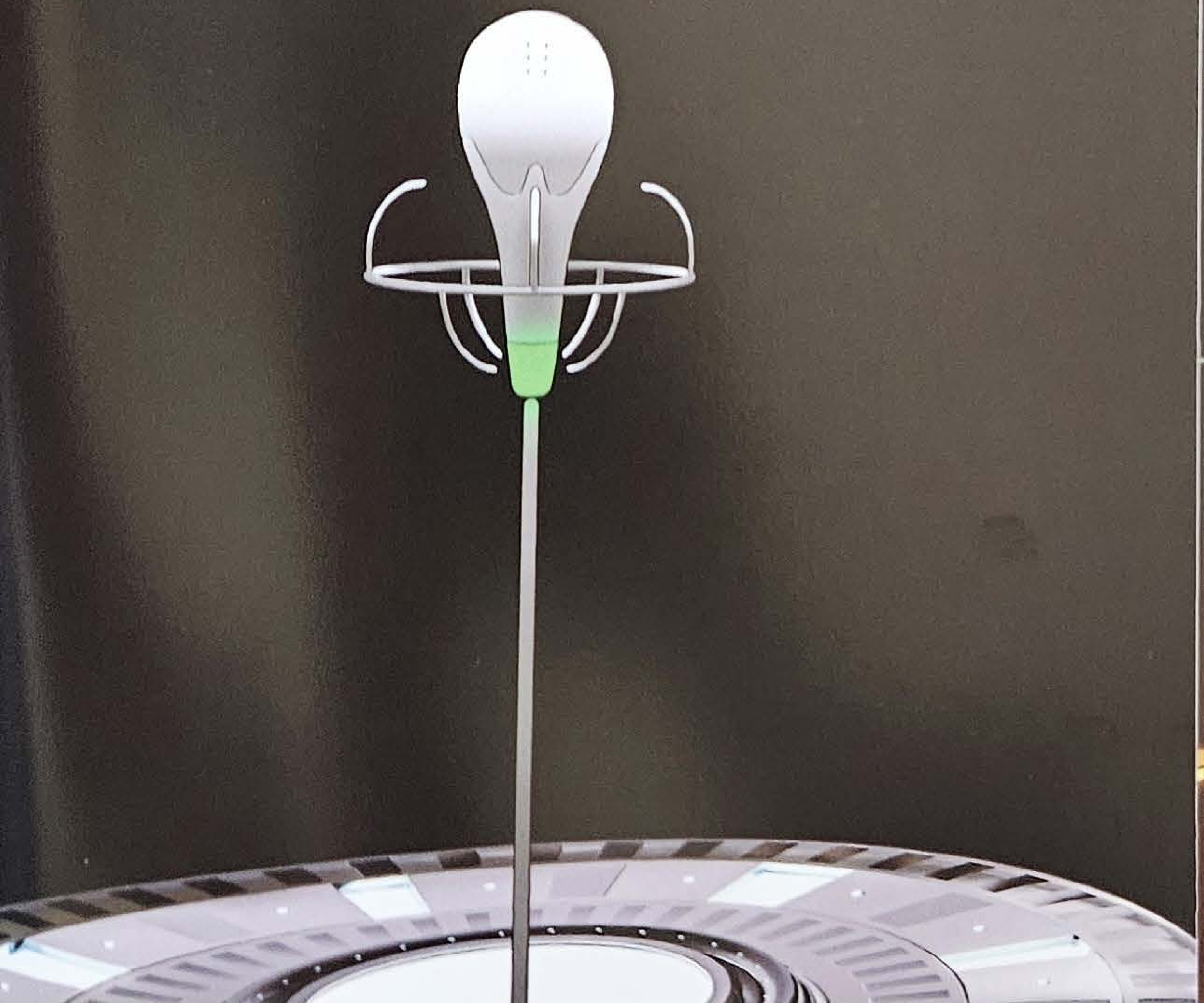
Alien Stage's Popularity

With the stimulating concept of a life-and-death survival audition program, Alien Stage has become the most popular show in the galaxy. With consistently high ratings and considerable financial success, the show has been going strong with numerous seasons. This show is the reason pet human breeding has become a profitable business.



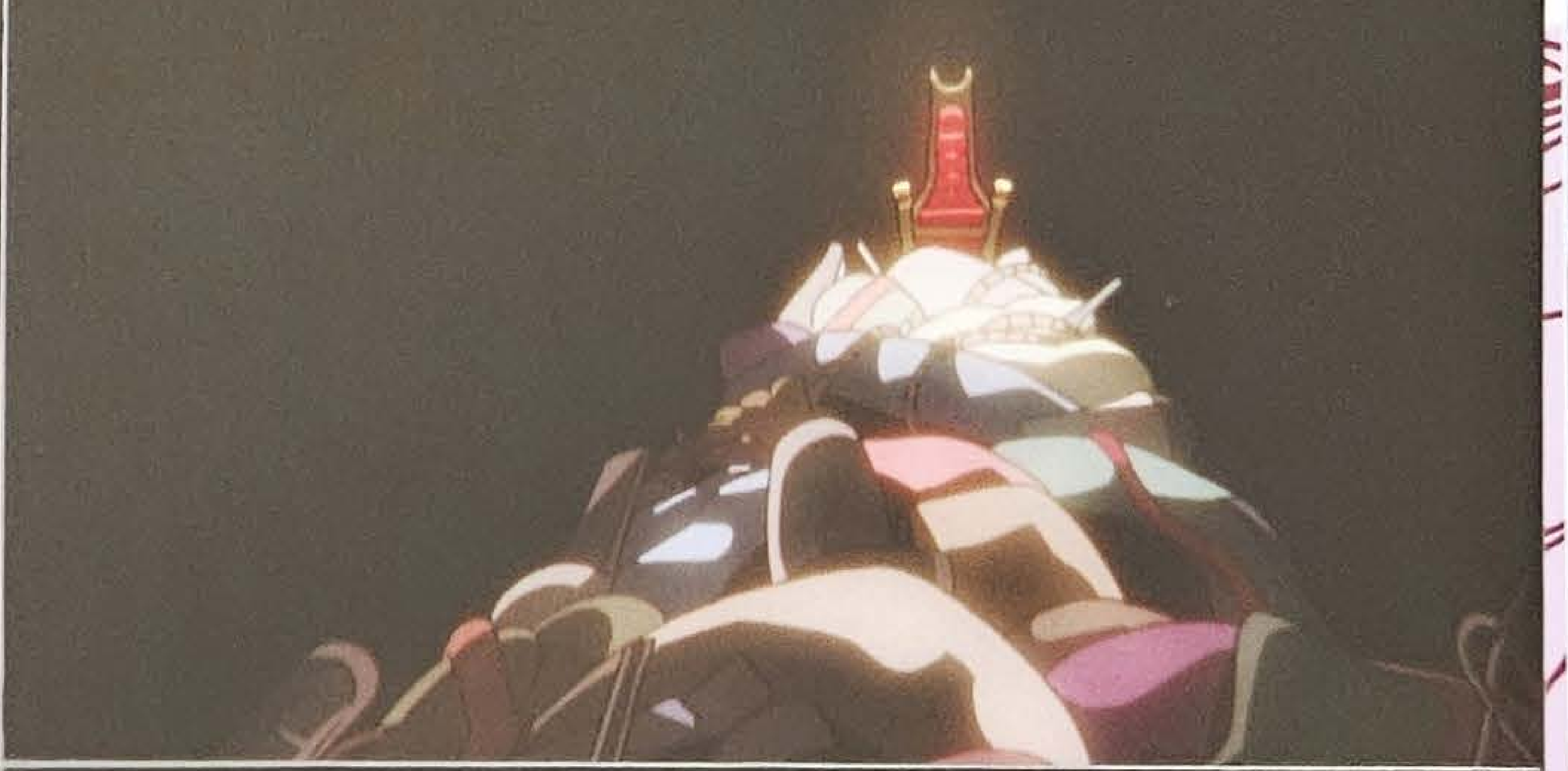
Perception of Alien Stage

Alien Stage captures the dramatic moments that occur on a stage with lives on the line. During their time in Anakt, most pet humans are taught only a vague notion of the concept of death in order to create quite the spectacle when they finally come across "true death." (These reactions often get used in parodies and memes.)



Victory Benefits

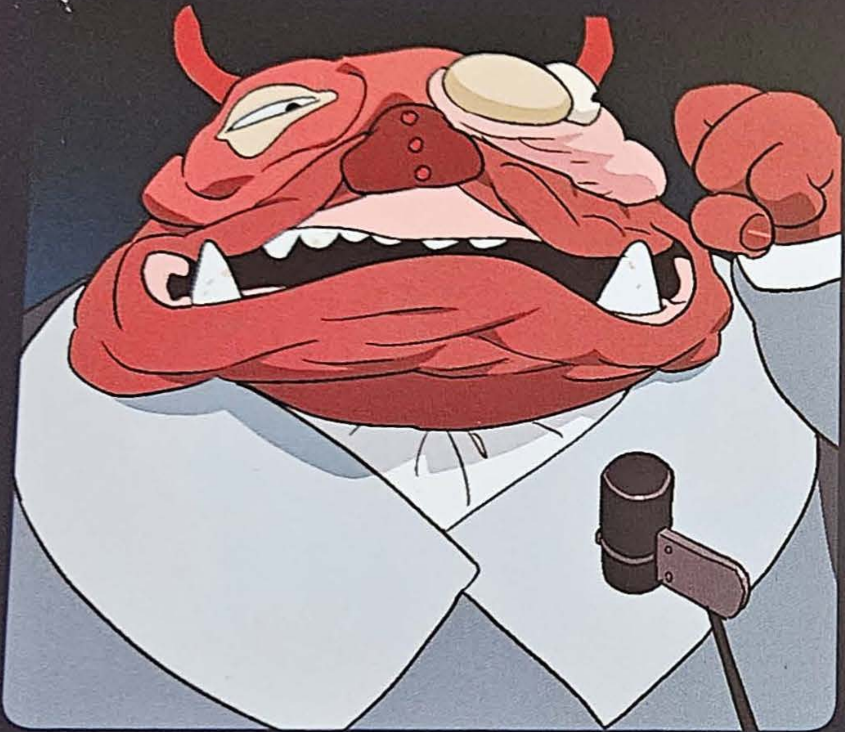
A winning guardian is given extraordinary benefits. Money and fame is a given, and any additional income earned by the pet human all go to the guardian. The winning guardian also receives a ticket for entry into Utopia, where they can live a life afforded to only the top 0.1% of Segyein. Many Segyein attempt to obtain talented pet humans for a chance to receive this boon.

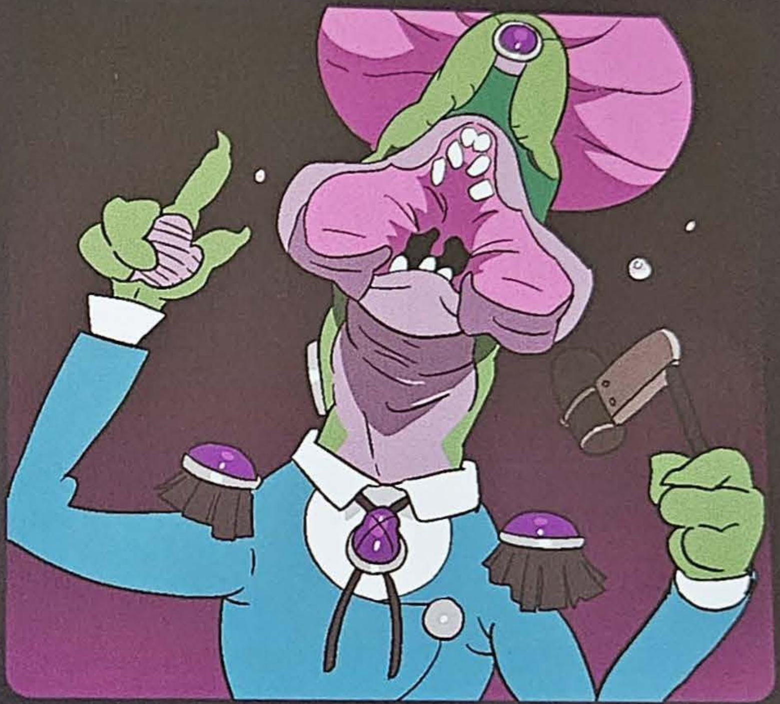


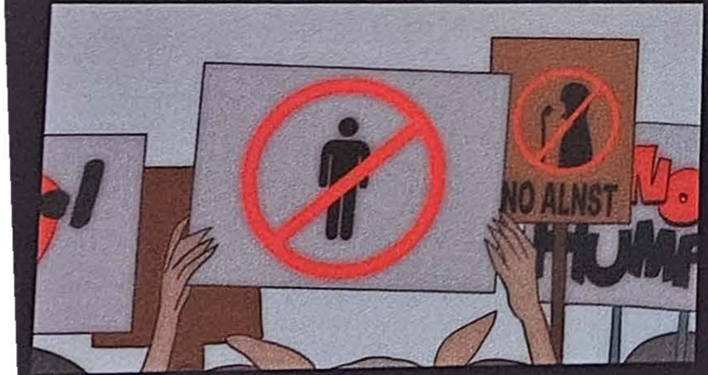
Pet Human popularity reaches dangerous heights, can this be tolerated?

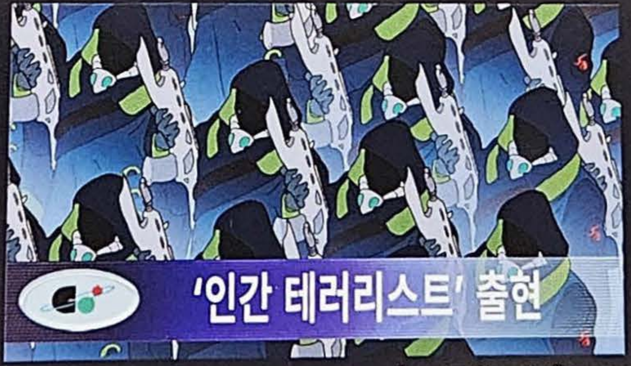
애완 인간의 인기 과열, 괜찮은가?

OE:ON





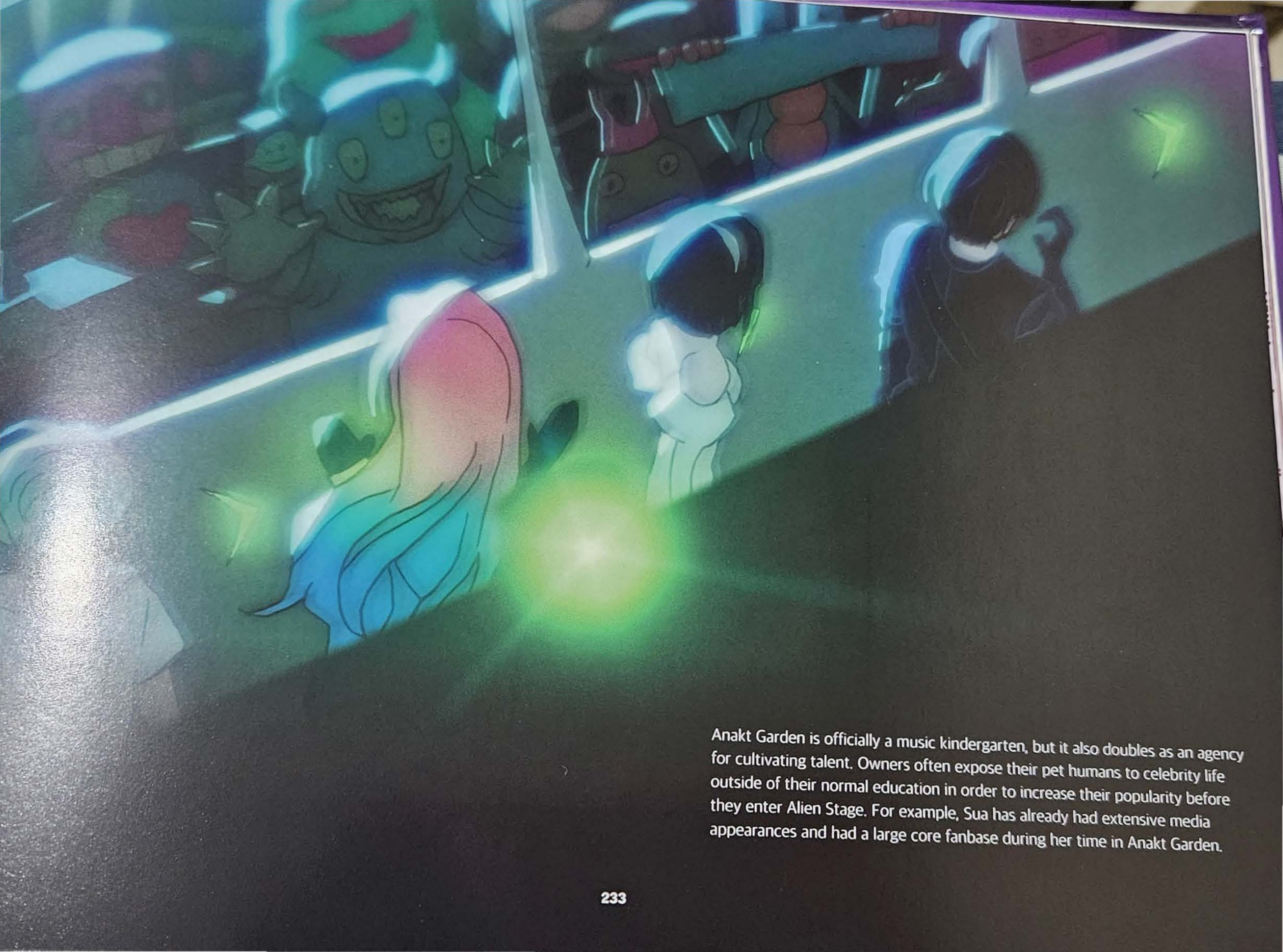




"Human Terrorists" appear

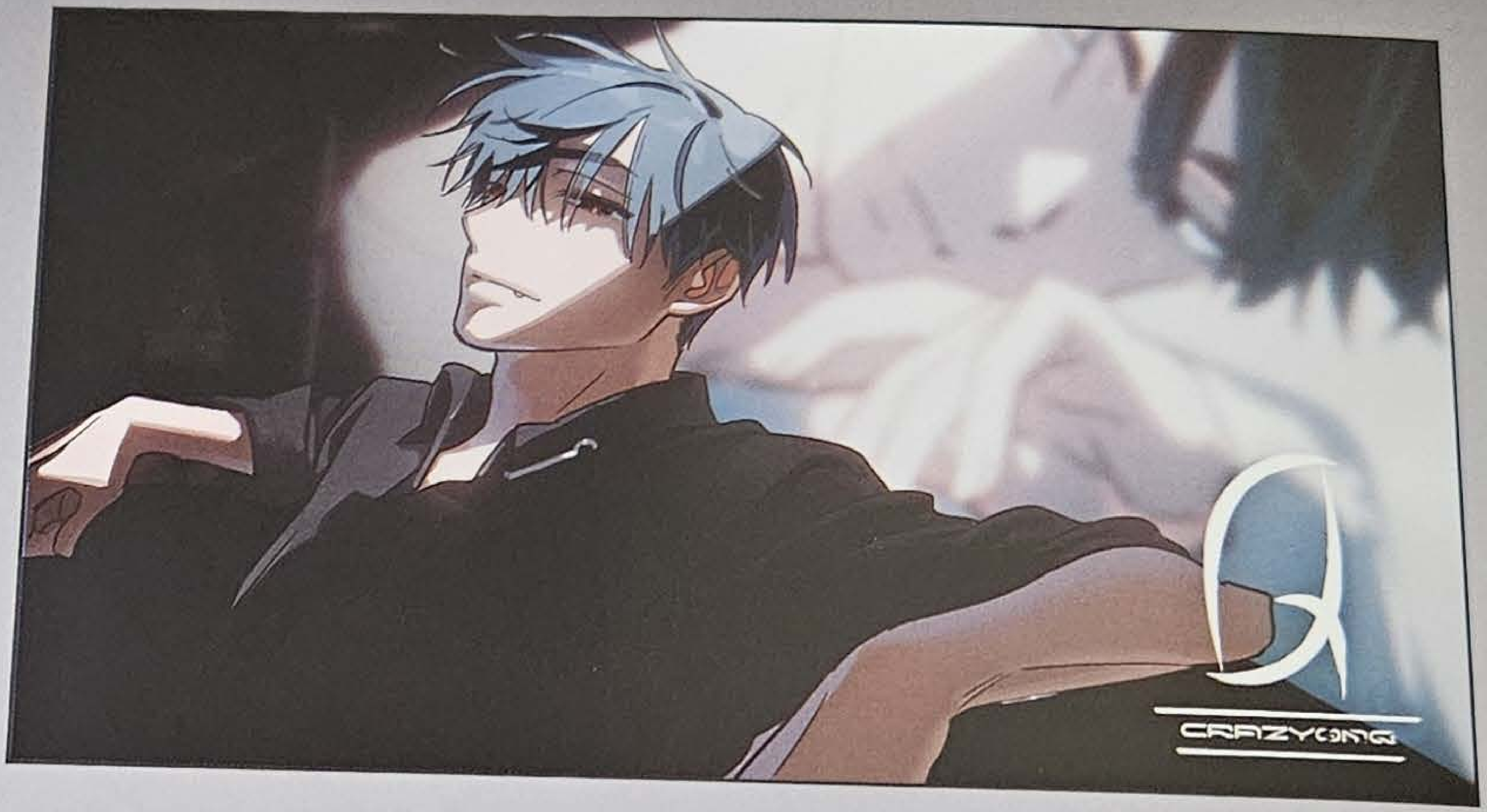
Perception of pet humans

"To what extent should rights be granted to pet humans?" is a hot topic as of late, and there are more and more Segyein who are against the program. The petition to shut down Alien Stage from a forum last month received over 40,000 signatures.



Anakt Garden is officially a music kindergarten, but it also doubles as an agency for cultivating talent. Owners often expose their pet humans to celebrity life outside of their normal education in order to increase their popularity before they enter Alien Stage. For example, Sua has already had extensive media appearances and had a large core fanbase during her time in Anakt Garden.

IVAN

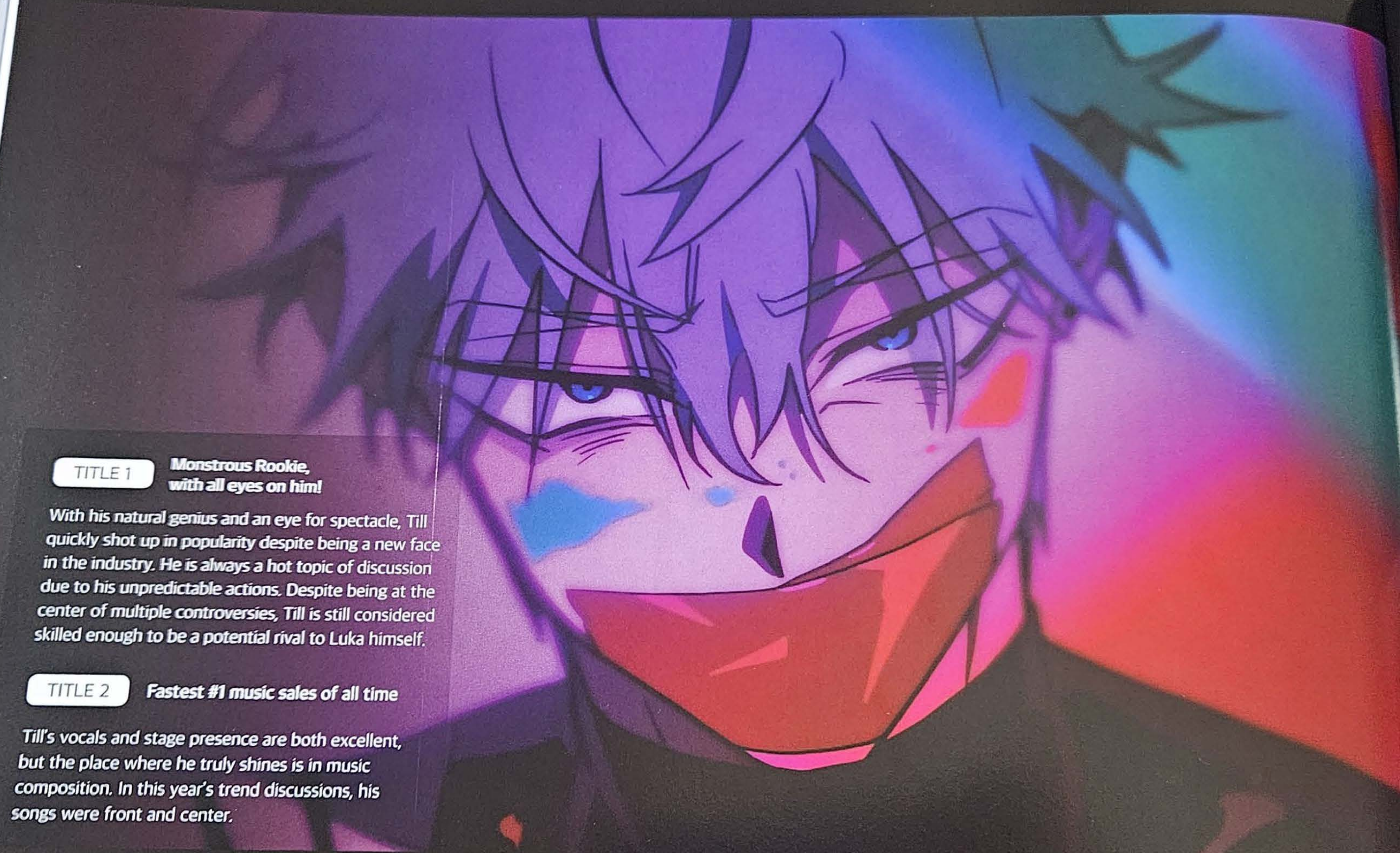


TITLE 1 Rated number 1 in brand value for Blocell

After a meteoric rise in popularity after ROUND 3, Ivan became the face of numerous advertisements and is considered a future commercial star. He is known for his meticulous management of his public image and many advertising brands rate him highly.

TITLE 2 1st in live voting

In a live vote during ROUND 3, Ivan made headlines for briefly overtaking Luka and becoming number 1. With his sincere and appealing face and voice, he has established a solid fanbase.



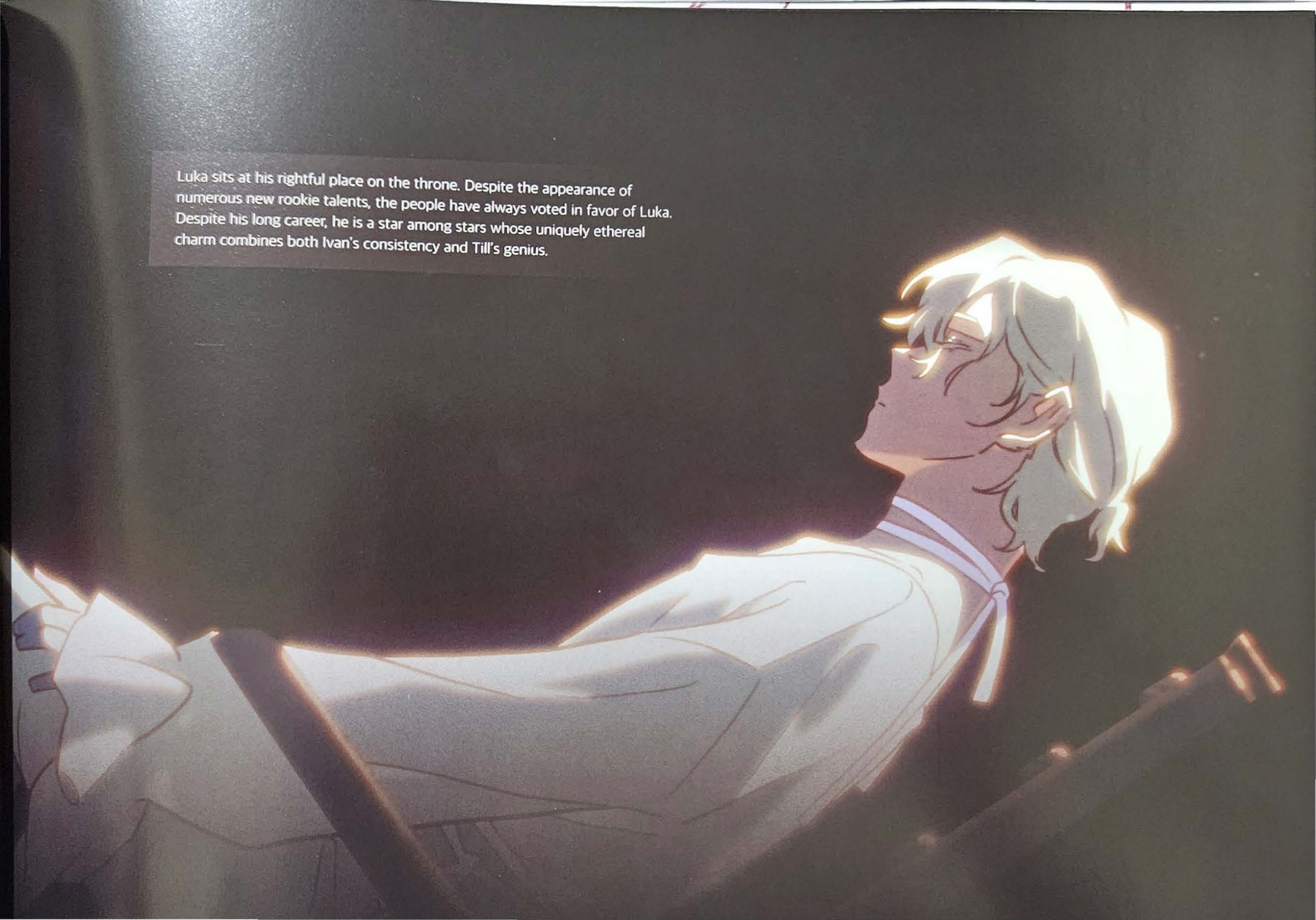
TITLE 1 **Monstrous Rookie, with all eyes on him!**

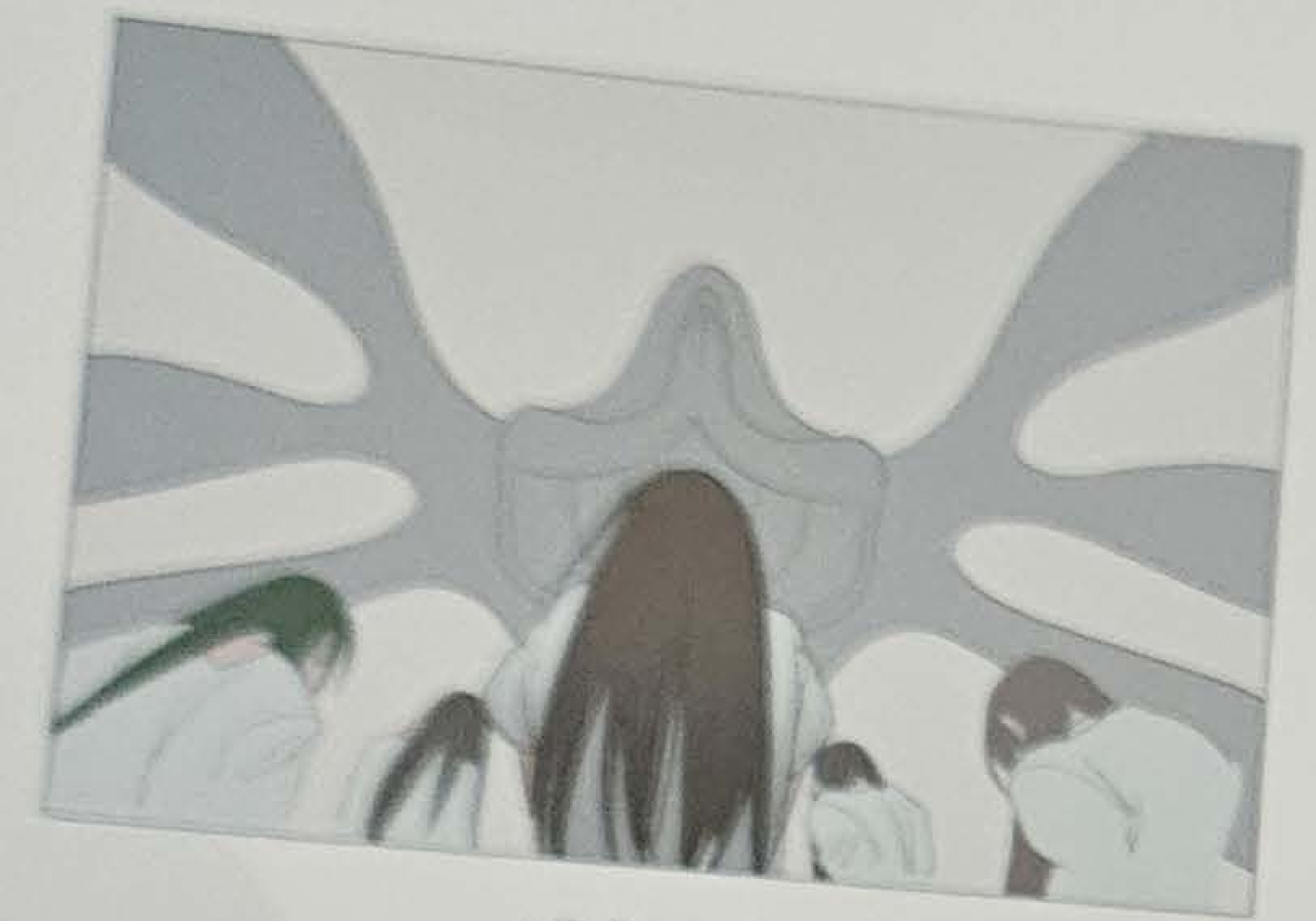
With his natural genius and an eye for spectacle, Till quickly shot up in popularity despite being a new face in the industry. He is always a hot topic of discussion due to his unpredictable actions. Despite being at the center of multiple controversies, Till is still considered skilled enough to be a potential rival to Luka himself.

TITLE 2 **Fastest #1 music sales of all time**

Till's vocals and stage presence are both excellent, but the place where he truly shines is in music composition. In this year's trend discussions, his songs were front and center.

Luka sits at his rightful place on the throne. Despite the appearance of numerous new rookie talents, the people have always voted in favor of Luka. Despite his long career, he is a star among stars whose uniquely ethereal charm combines both Ivan's consistency and Till's genius.

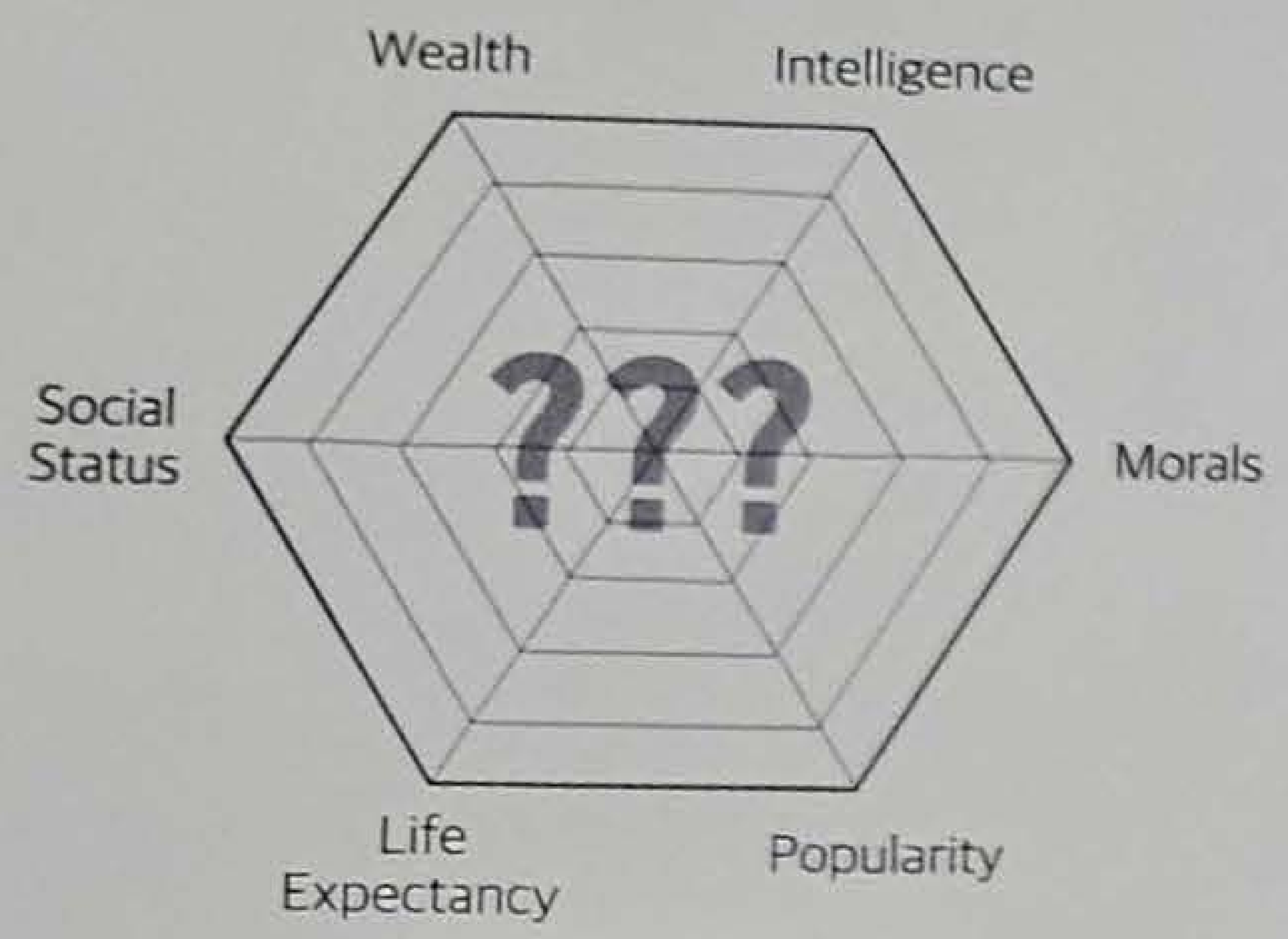




▲ Before edits

About Anakt

Anakt is the representative of the Anakt Group, a major conglomerate that leads the galaxy in the production of cultural arts. Alien Stage is a program funded by the Anakt Group. Anakt Garden is a subsidiary of this group. Recognizing the potential in the pet human business, they sought to monopolize the industry. Humans who are part of this business see Anakt as a god and offer up their blind faith.



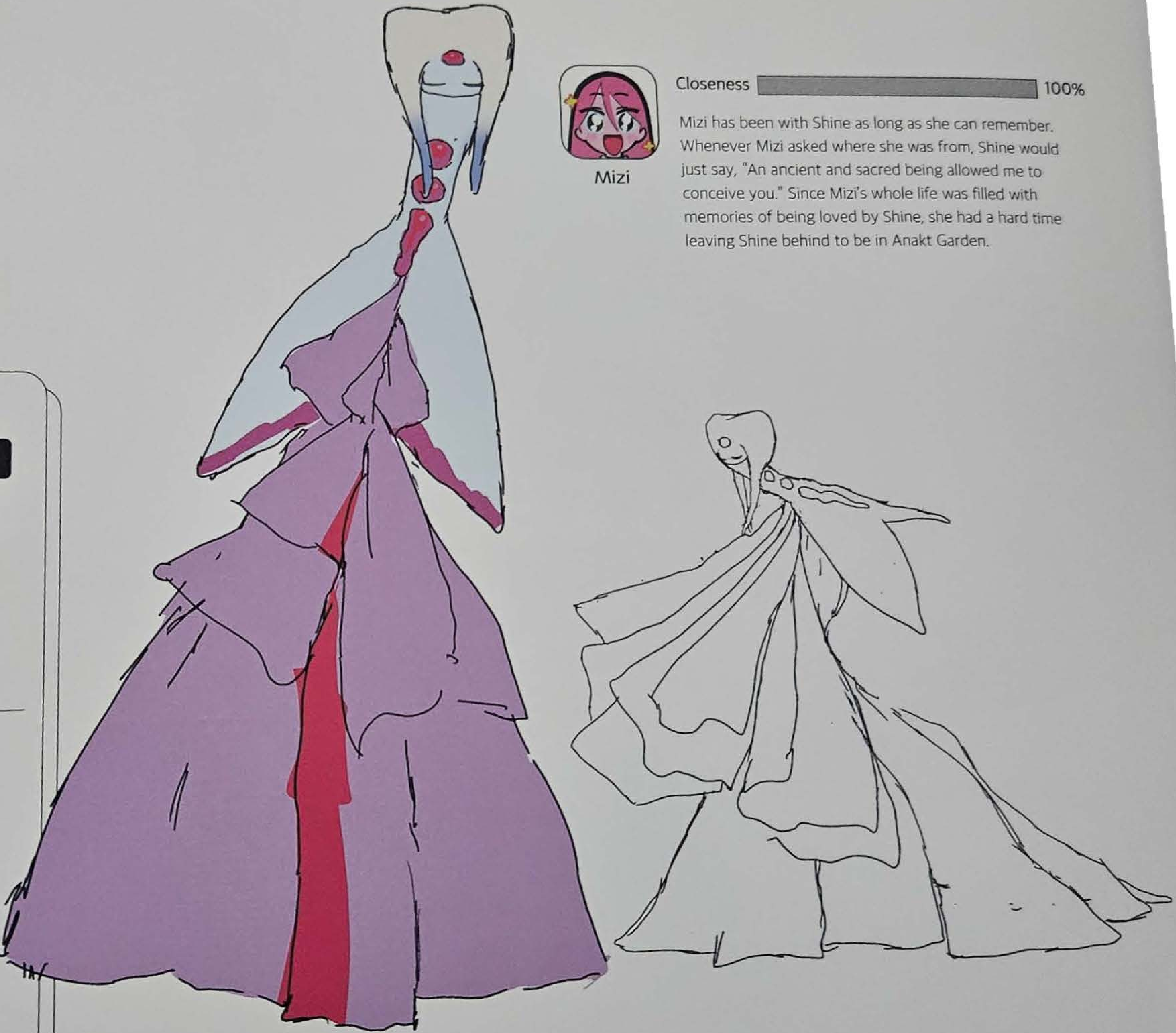
PROFILE

#MysteriousSpecies **#DeepSeaOwners**
#TranscendentBeing **#Benevolent**

Name	Shine
Occupation	??
Reason for Entering	Mizi wanted to enter
One line summary of pet human	"Our precious youngest child, who always does something new."

[COMMENT]

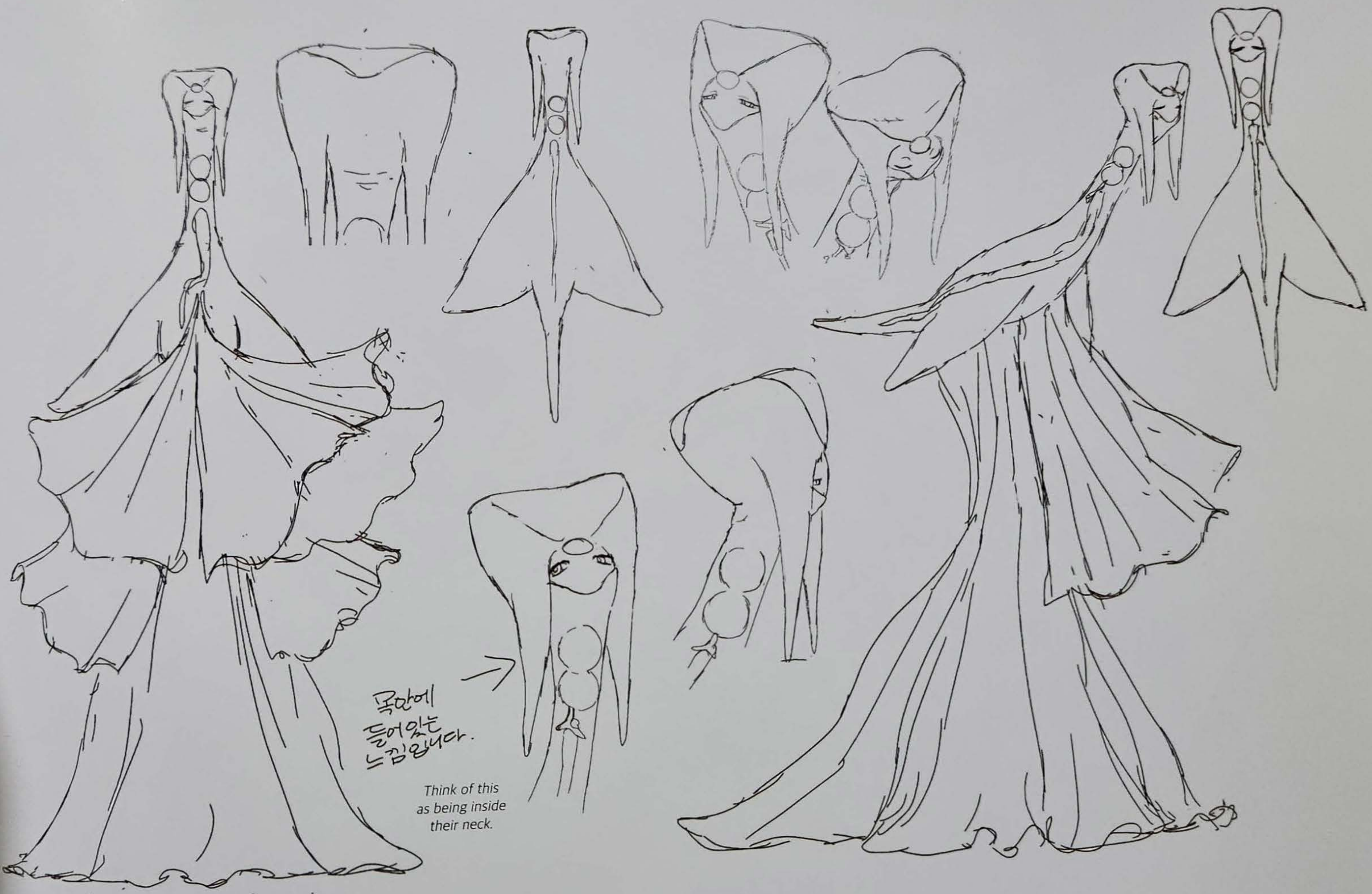
A species of Segyein with a long lifespan. Caring towards new lifeforms. Shine feels a particular fondness toward humans, and this interest led them to adopting Mizi. Shine treasures and loves Mizi, but due to fundamental differences in biology between humans and Segyein, they will never truly understand her. Shine lives on a planet that is reminiscent of the deep sea, where jellyfish make their home. The idea was that Mizi has bad eyesight from growing up there. Shine decided to enter Mizi in Alien Stage per Mizi's own request and always sits as close as possible to the stage to cheer for her.



Mizi

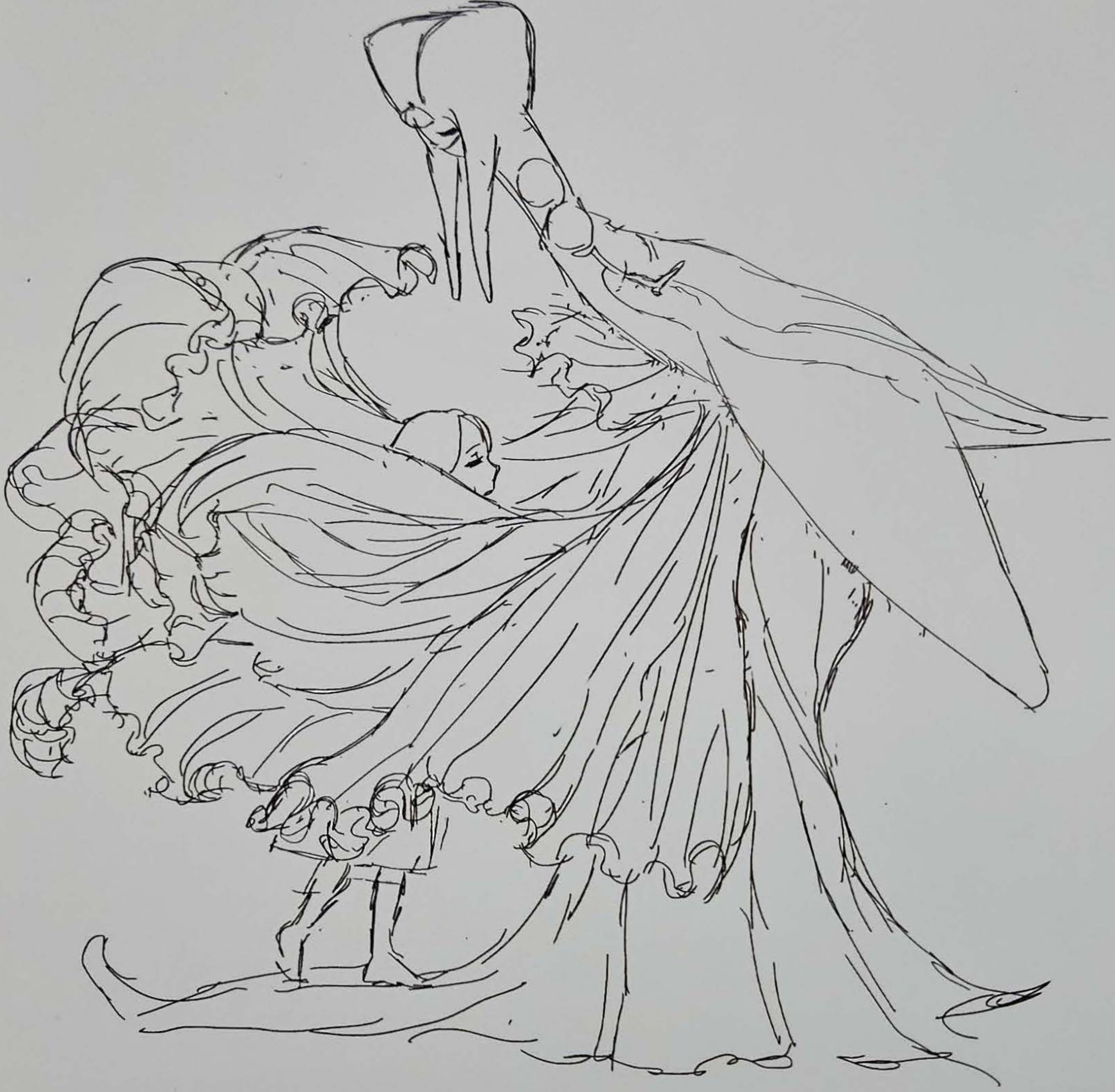
Closeness ▨ 100%

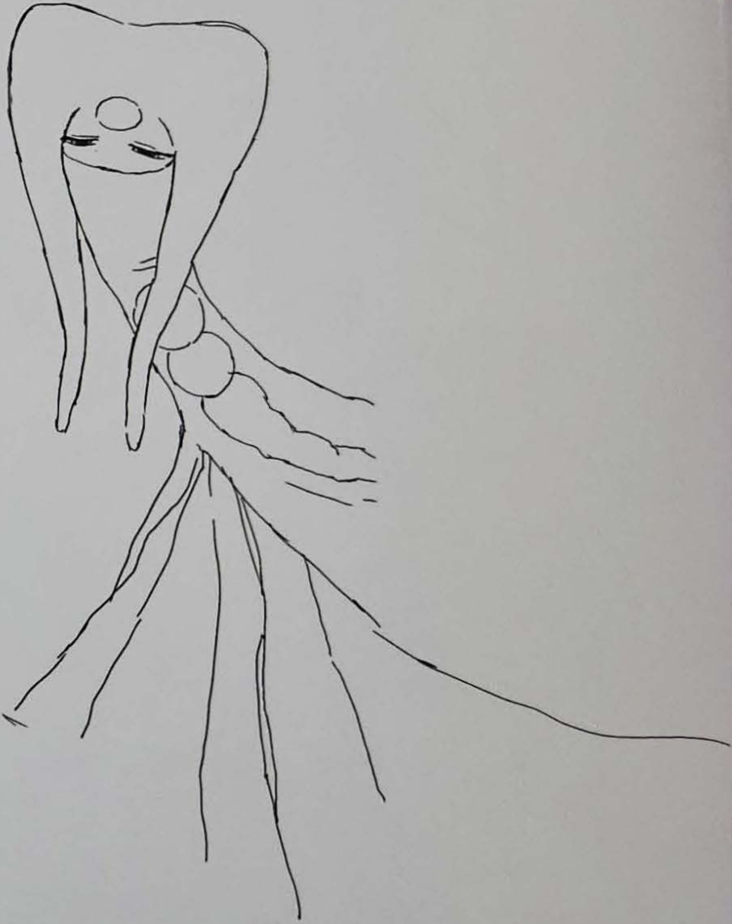
Mizi has been with Shine as long as she can remember. Whenever Mizi asked where she was from, Shine would just say, "An ancient and sacred being allowed me to conceive you." Since Mizi's whole life was filled with memories of being loved by Shine, she had a hard time leaving Shine behind to be in Anakt Garden.

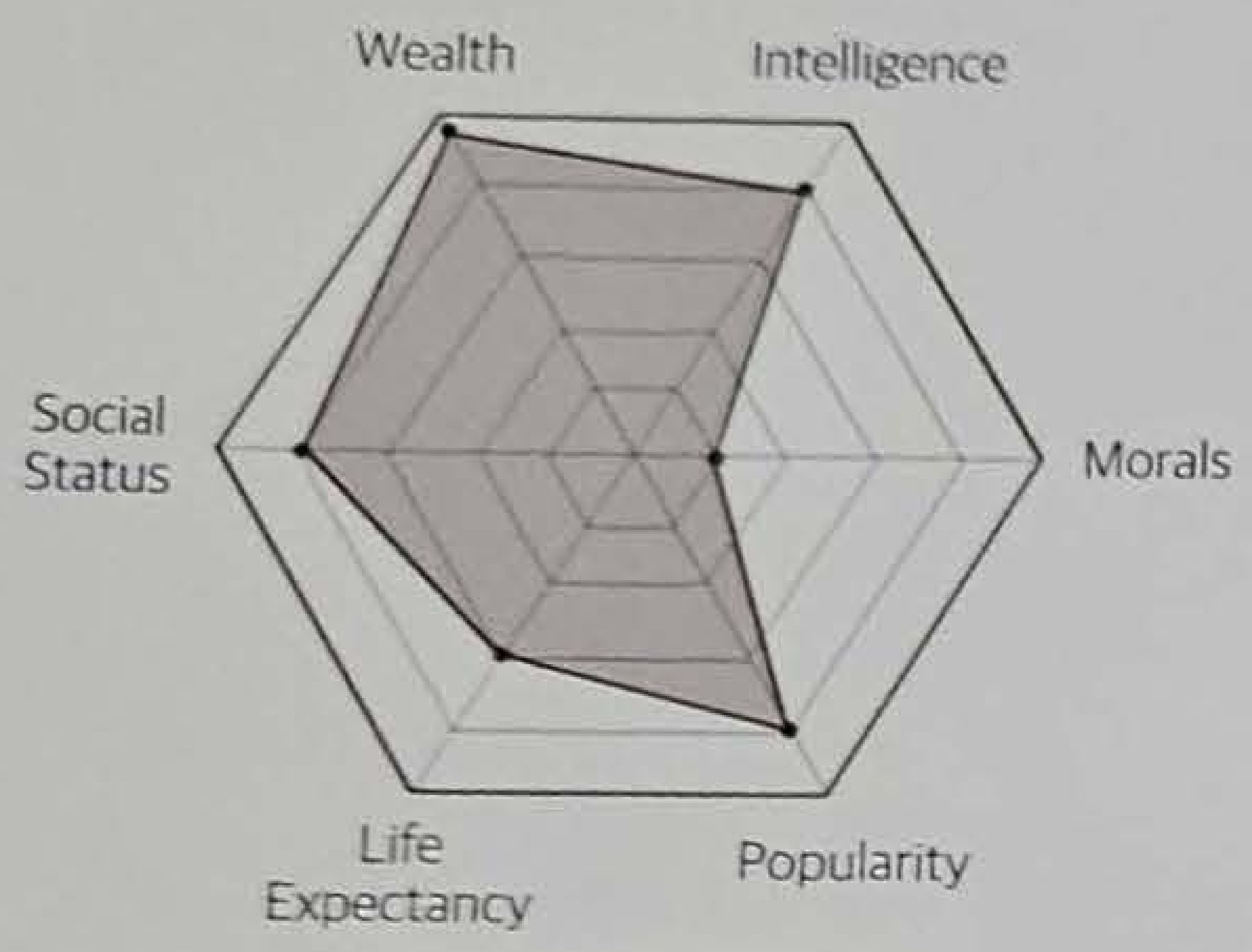


목안에
들어있는
느낌입니다.

Think of this
as being inside
their neck.







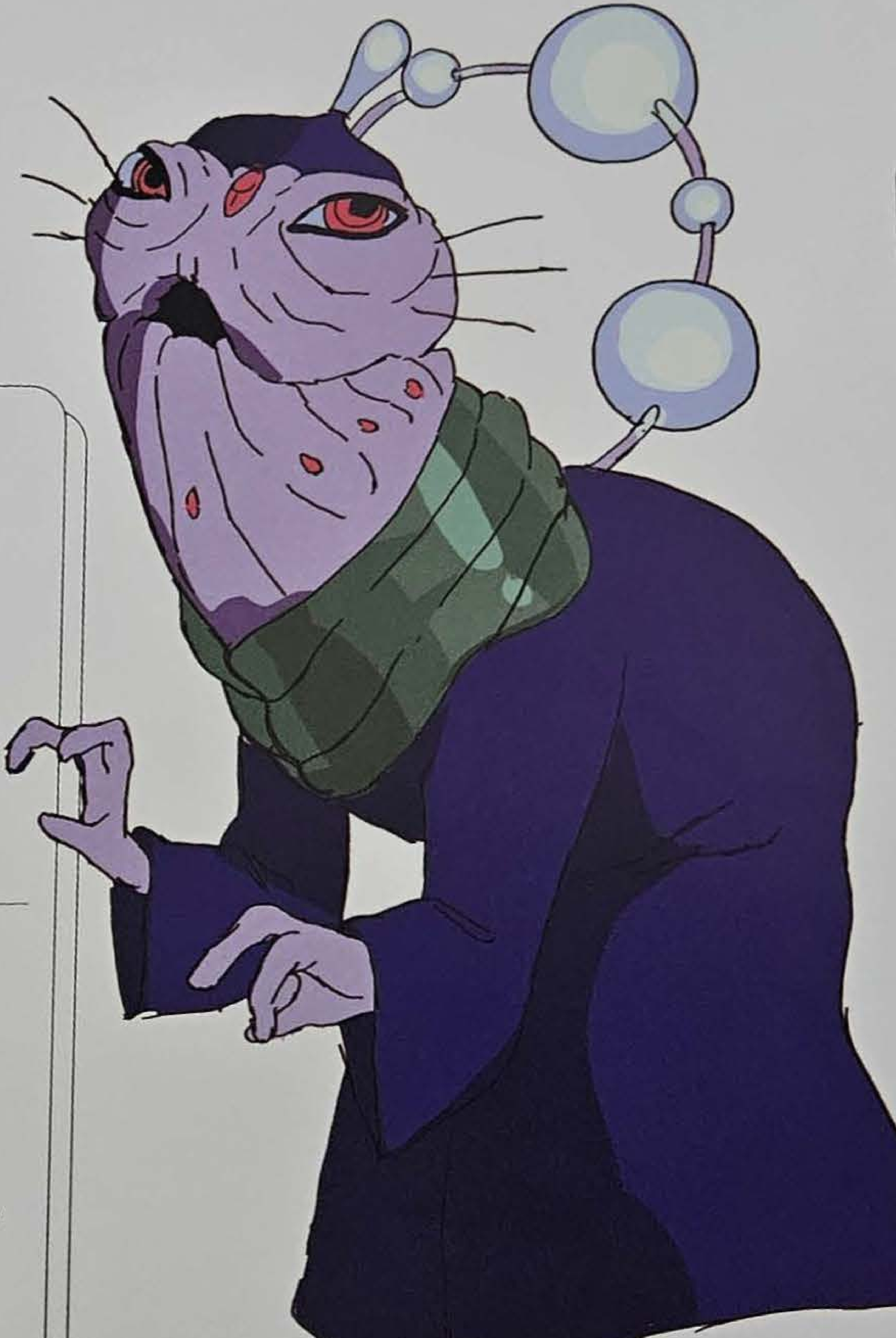
PROFILE

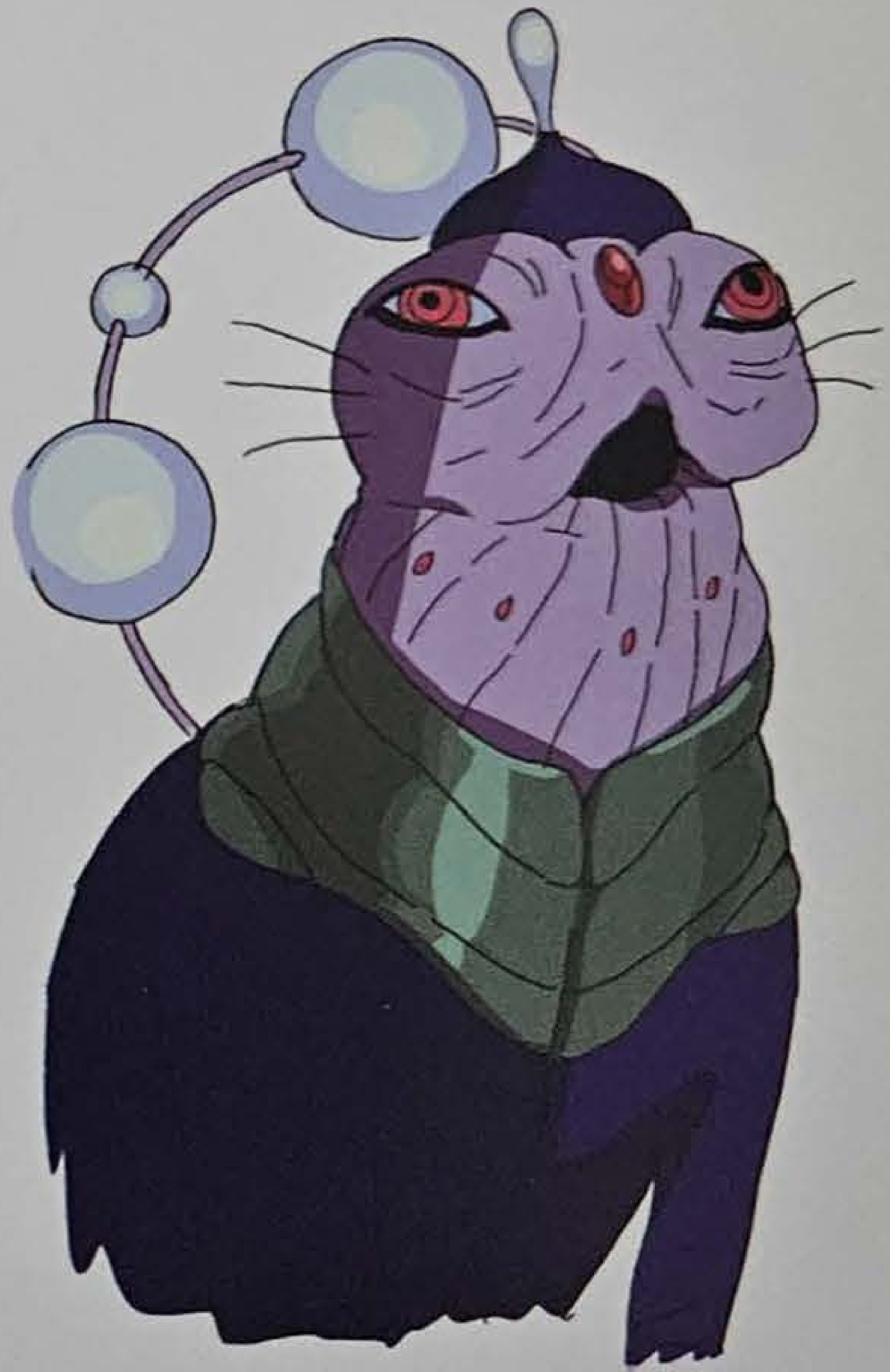
#Underhanded **#NobleStatus**
#Scientist **#Gloomy**

Name	Heperu
Occupation	Ex-lab assistant, Current entertainer and businessman
Reason for Entering	For fame and to prove themself
One line summary of pet human	"My magnum opus."

[COMMENT]

A famous entertainer and entrepreneur in the galaxy. Lived an average life before they grew to be a wealthy entrepreneur thanks to Luka. With their excellent business sense, they have been investing in Alien Stage since early on. They are famous for entering in Alien Stage multiple times. Ever since they split from Hyuna's guardian, Phan, they have been defined by their inferiority complex and the need to prove themself. They tried to win against Phan in the previous season (season 49) with their creation, Luka, but Phan didn't show up and their absence only induced a greater sense of inferiority within Heperu.





Luka

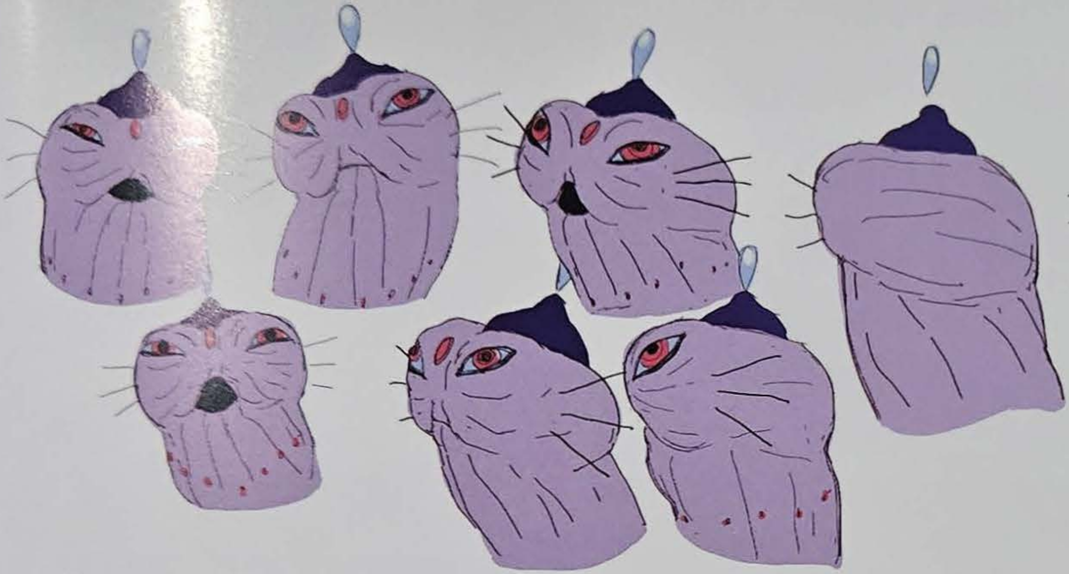
Closeness 50%

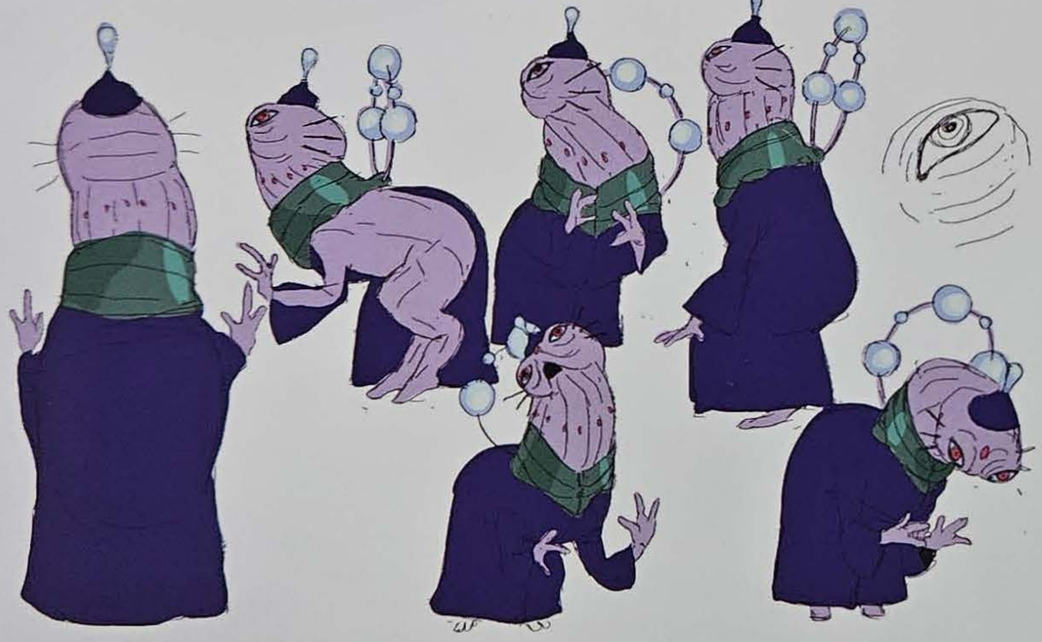
Their masterpiece, created after a long period of hard work. Heperu likes Luka's beautiful, emotionless expressions and his exceedingly efficient speech and mannerisms. Heperu will shower Luka with love as long as he doesn't make mistakes.

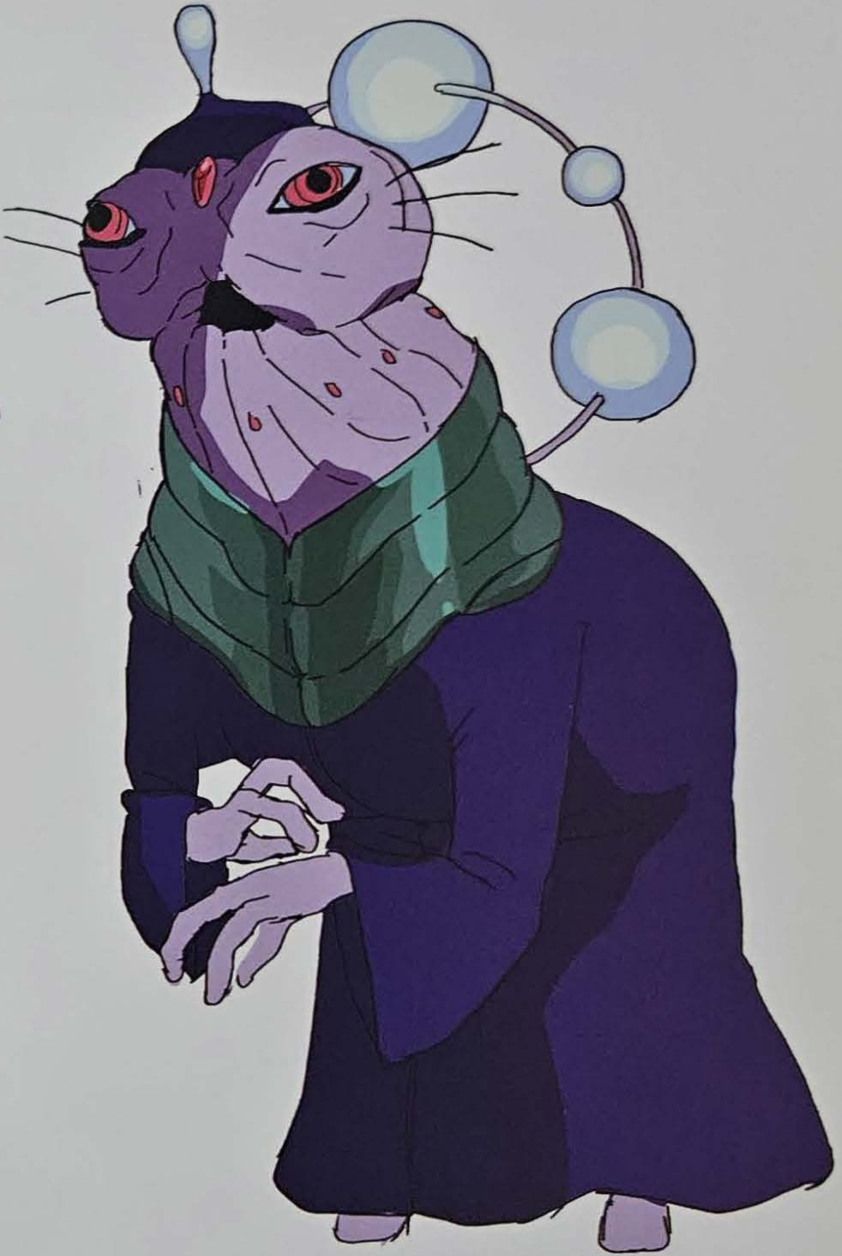
Phan

Closeness 65%

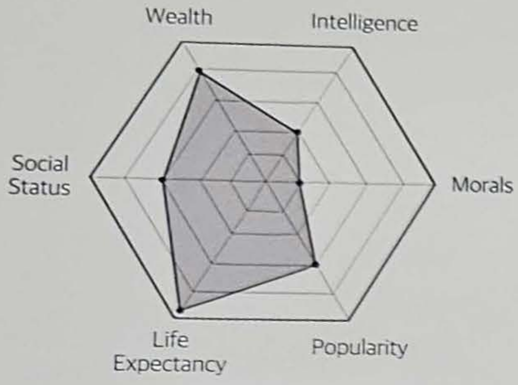
Strong affection is no different from strong hate. Heperu always sought Phan's approval, and decided to become a competitive rival to them. However, Phan didn't seem to care at all, causing Heperu to become agitated whenever they think about Phan.







Urak



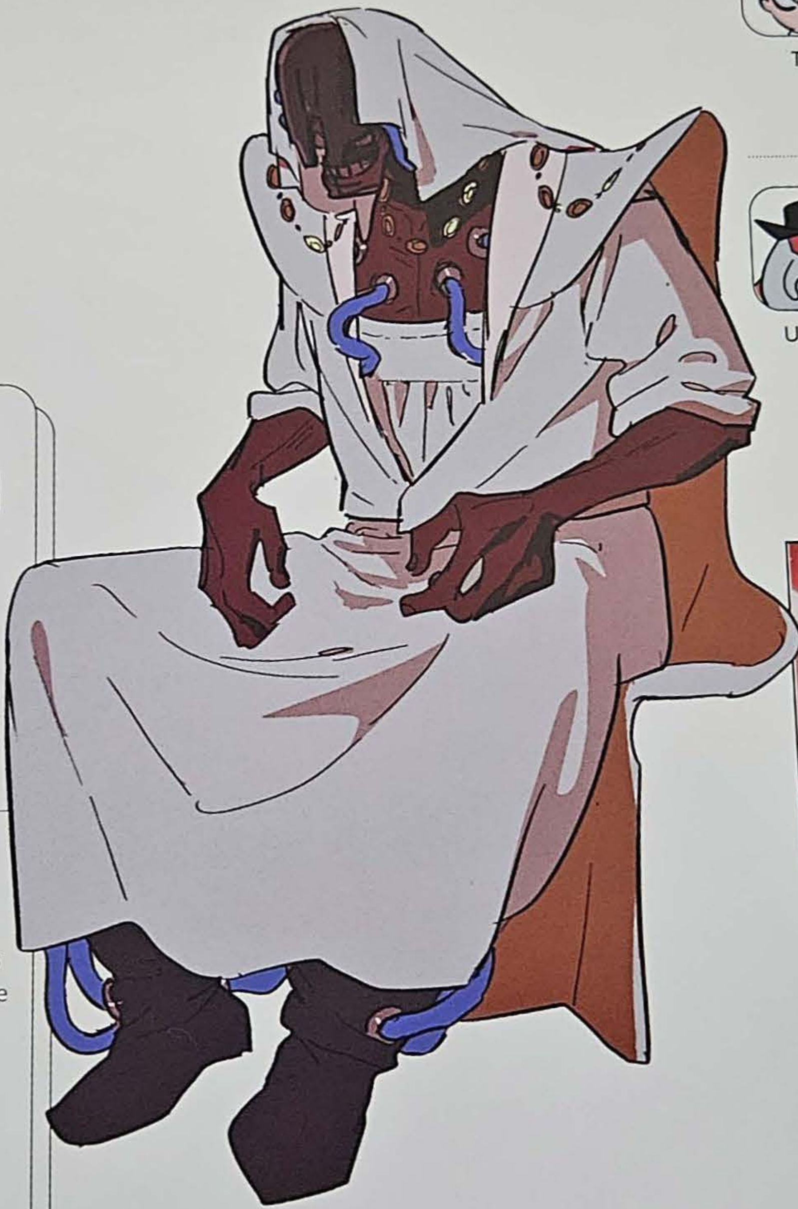
PROFILE

#HumbleBeginnings **#Self-MadeSuccess** **#Evil** **#Greedy**

Name	Urak
Occupation	Entrepreneur (as a front for illegal dealings)
Reason for Entering	Earn enough money to be comfortable
One line summary of pet human	"Thorn in my side I can't get rid of."

[COMMENT]

An owner of a human multi-shop whose business grew exponentially thanks to Alien Stage raising galactic interest in pet humans. Urak considers humans a product to deal in rather than pets to show affection toward. Since the success of Alien Stage is tied to success in Urak's business, they strive to prove that their pet humans are the best products in the business. Urak's pet humans are brutally beaten for the sake of obedience and undergo intense training to cultivate talent. Because of this, Urak's pet humans are always strong contenders to potentially win, but they usually end up losing at the end due to their unstable mental state. Urak is insecure about the fact that they look similar to humans.



Till

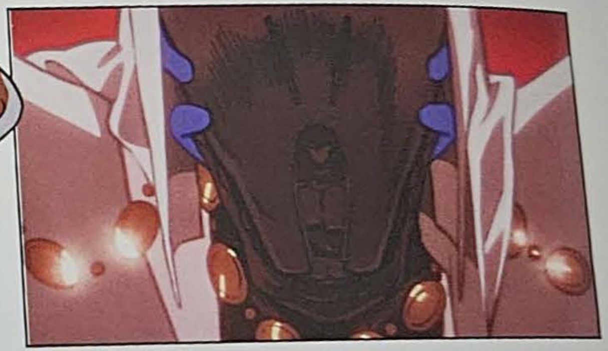
Closeness 47%

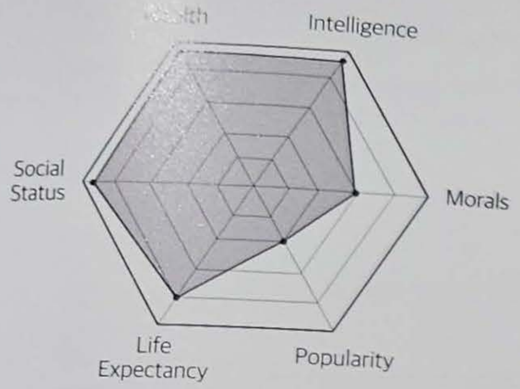
One of the many pet humans cultivated for victory in Alien Stage. He has the most potential out of all of them, but is also the hardest to control. Despite this, the potential money that Till could bring in prevents Urak from simply giving up on him.

Unsha

Closeness 33%

Urak's trusted longtime business partner, but Urak still never lets their guard down. Urak knows that trust within business dealings comes from both ill-intentioned truths and well-intentioned lies. Urak is constantly struggling to maintain this trust with Unsha to continue receiving funding.





PROFILE

#Boss #PowerfulAuthority #Pretentious #NoMercy

Name	Unsha
Occupation	(Criminal underworld) Business
Reason for Entering	Business expansion
One line summary of pet human	"Grew up splendidly."

[COMMENT]

Unsha deals in illegal business but takes great care to cultivate a good public image to make everything seem above board. They look like a mafia boss and are always flanked by giant bodyguards. Urak and Unsha are considered the two biggest names in the criminal underworld, and since their territories tend to overlap they are presumed to be rivals. Unsha always seeks to be number 1, and their entrance into Alien Stage is actually one of many ways in which Unsha tries to one-up Urak. Unsha doesn't abuse their pet humans like Urak, but they generally neglect them and simply see them as products.

IVAN & UNSHA

Unsha is Ivan's guardian, but it wasn't as though they had particularly wanted him. Unsha was shopping around for decent humans who could potentially win in Alien Stage, and Ivan just happened to be the most notable and investment-worthy. With Unsha's money and influence, they enrolled Ivan in Anakt Garden and consistently pushed for his upkeep and advertising. Thanks to this, Ivan was able to receive funding from the get-go. The reason that Ivan is able to get the lead role in so many commercials is thanks to Unsha's support.

Ivan

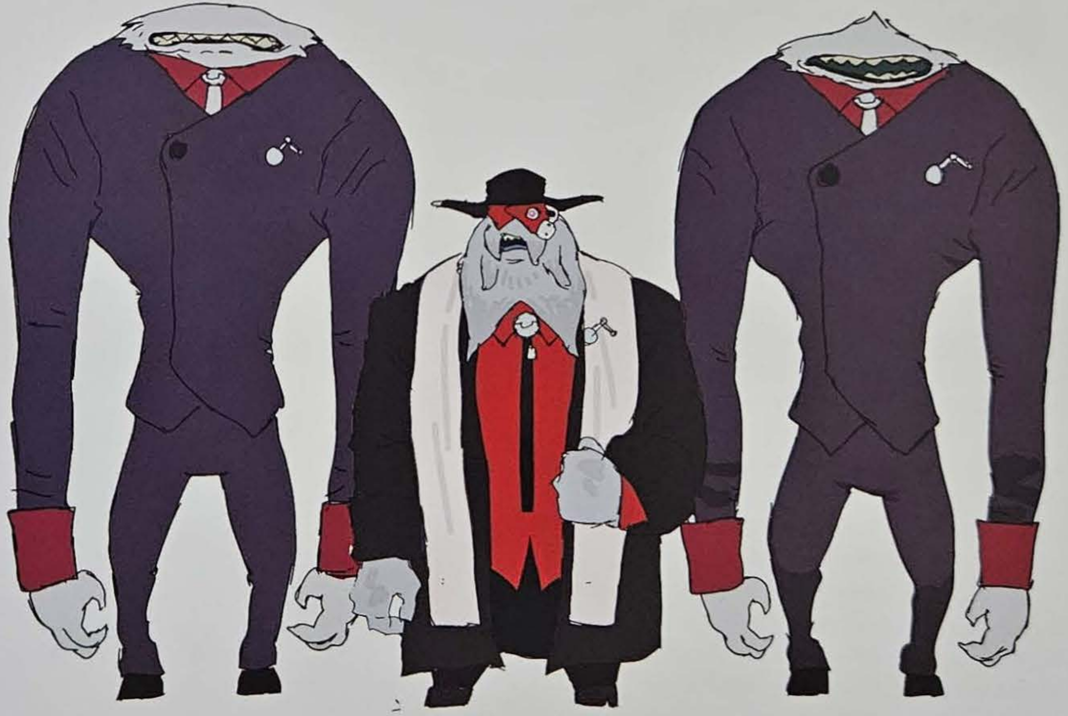
Closeness 44%

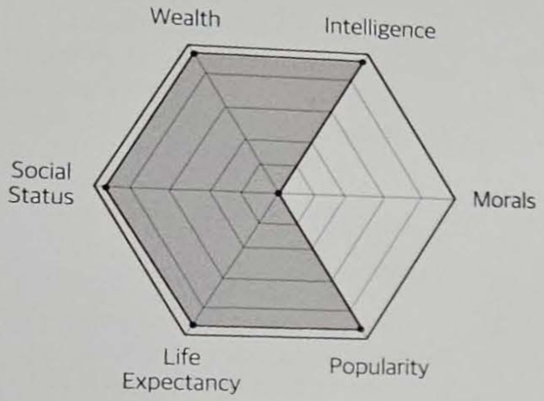
Considering where they obtained Ivan, Unsha didn't have high expectations for him. Despite this, Ivan proved an excellent investment, much to Unsha's satisfaction. Unsha has been raising Ivan longer than any of the other pet humans, so Unsha feels relatively close to him.

Urak

Closeness 9%

Simply one of many business partners, though Unsha rates Urak's work ethic higher than any of the others. Unsha even considers Urak pretty cute when Urak is trying their hardest to gain Unsha's approval.





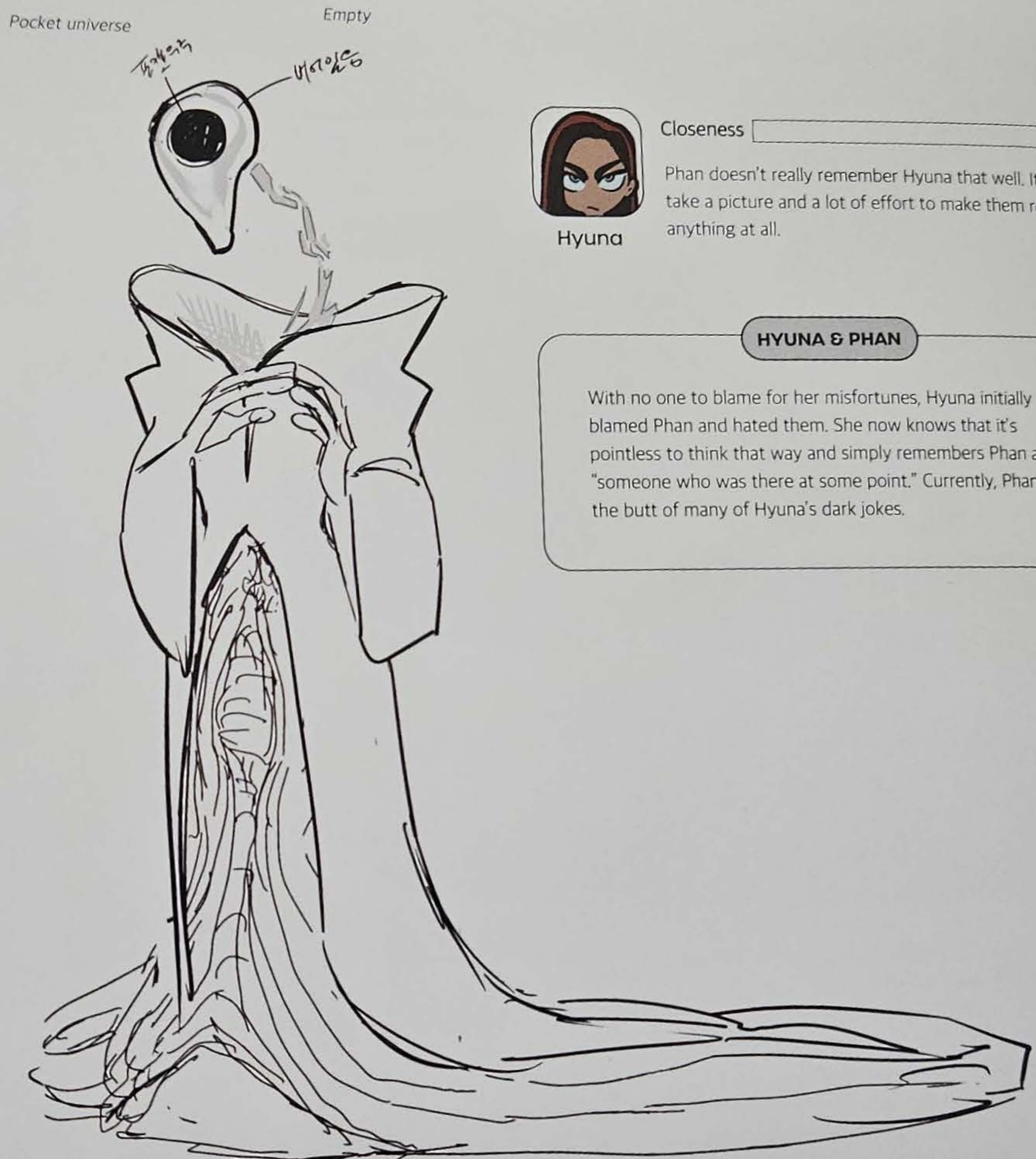
PROFILE

#Apathetic **#Authoritative**
#Scholar **#Mystical**

Name	Phan
Occupation	Widely known as a scientist, but the details are unknown
Reason for Entering	Patronage
One line summary of pet human	"I don't remember....was it male?"

[COMMENT]

Among the species of Segyein of the highest superiority. There are no greater lifeforms in the universe. Phan exudes an aura of nobility and isn't as invested in Alien Stage as the other Segyein. Indifferent to other lifeforms, Phan doesn't usually show themself to others. Even Phan's reason for becoming a guardian for Alien Stage wasn't to show off a pet human, but instead just as another way to receive patronage. Since Phan doesn't care all that much about their pet human, they don't even watch Alien Stage. Considering science an artform, Phan only focuses on scholarly pursuits and is seen as a legend among other scholars.



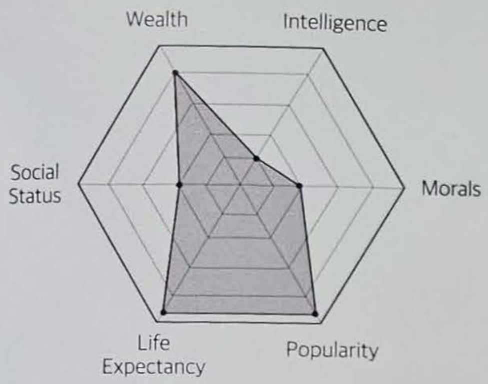
Hyuna

Closeness 0%

Phan doesn't really remember Hyuna that well. It would take a picture and a lot of effort to make them remember anything at all.

HYUNA & PHAN

With no one to blame for her misfortunes, Hyuna initially blamed Phan and hated them. She now knows that it's pointless to think that way and simply remembers Phan as "someone who was there at some point." Currently, Phan is the butt of many of Hyuna's dark jokes.



SUA & NIGEH

As an influencer, Nigeh raised Sua as a pet human influencer before she appeared in Alien Stage in order to increase her popularity.

Sua

Closeness 20%

Since Sua was the one who got the most public attention out of their seven pet humans, Nigeh feels closest to her. Even after sending Sua to Anakt Garden to enter into Alien Stage, Nigeh constantly showed Sua off to the masses to raise her fame. While Nigeh felt satisfaction at Sua's growing fandom, they also disliked that Sua was getting more attention than them.

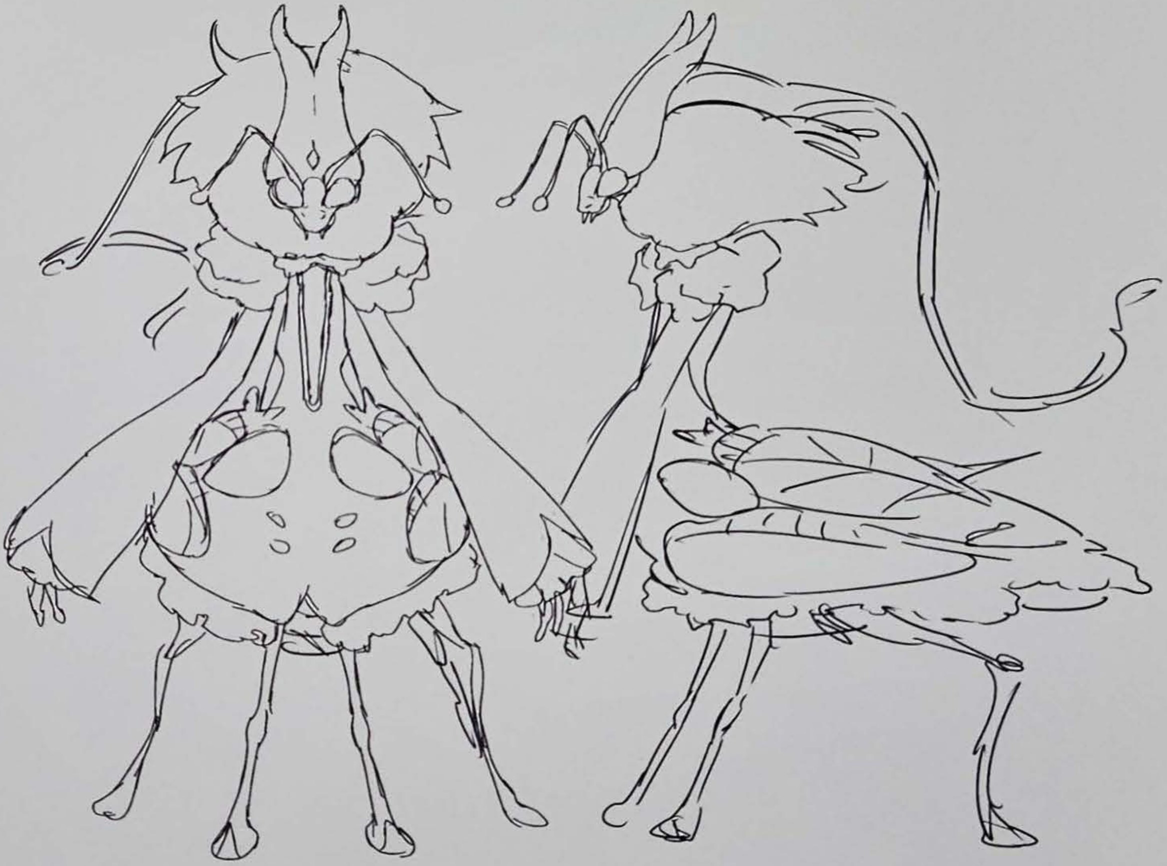
PROFILE

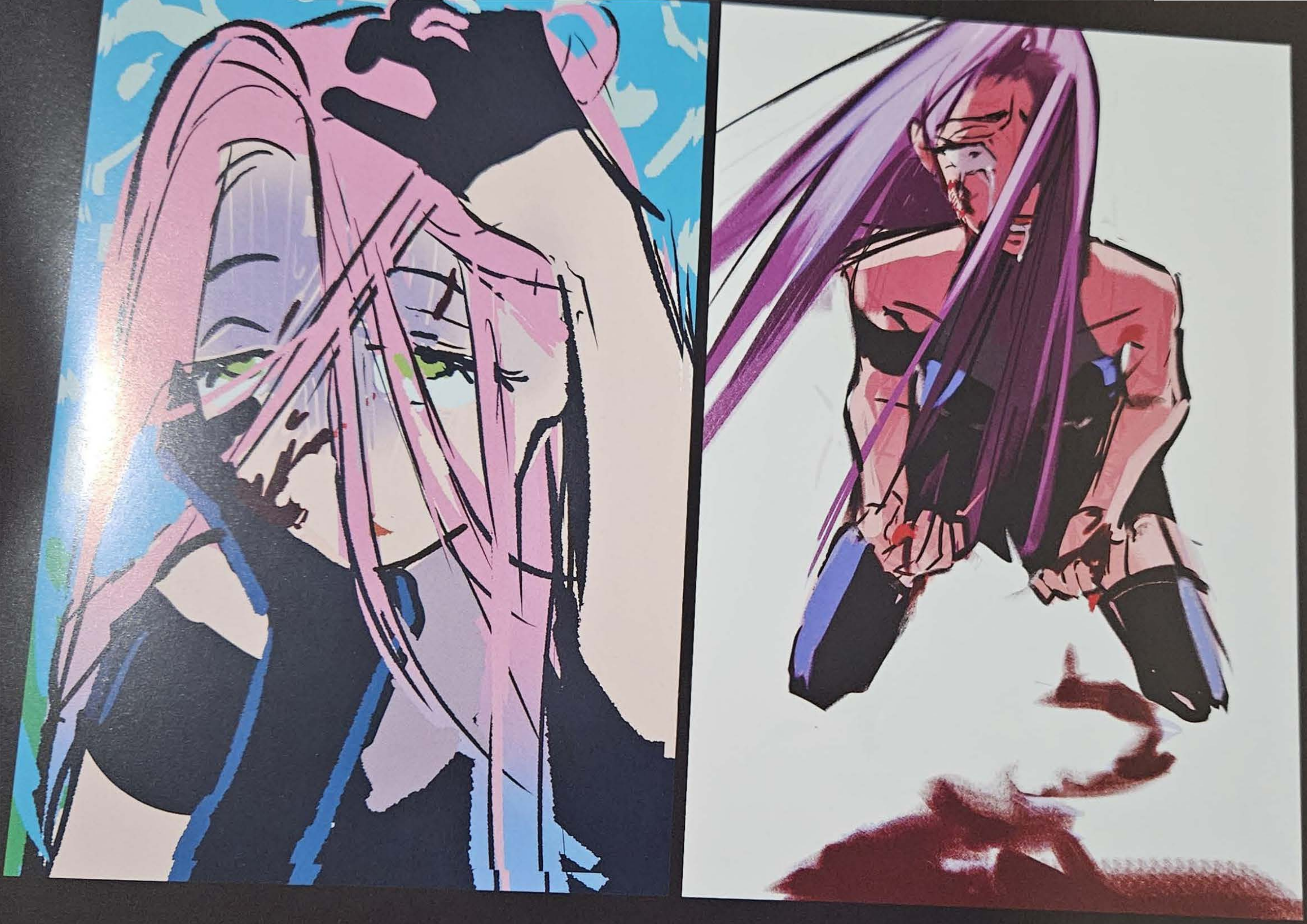
#Influencer **#Flashy** **#Sociopath** **#Narcissist**

Name	Nigeh
Occupation	Influencer
Reason for Entering	Attention and Fame
One line summary of pet human	"Cutest out of everything I own."

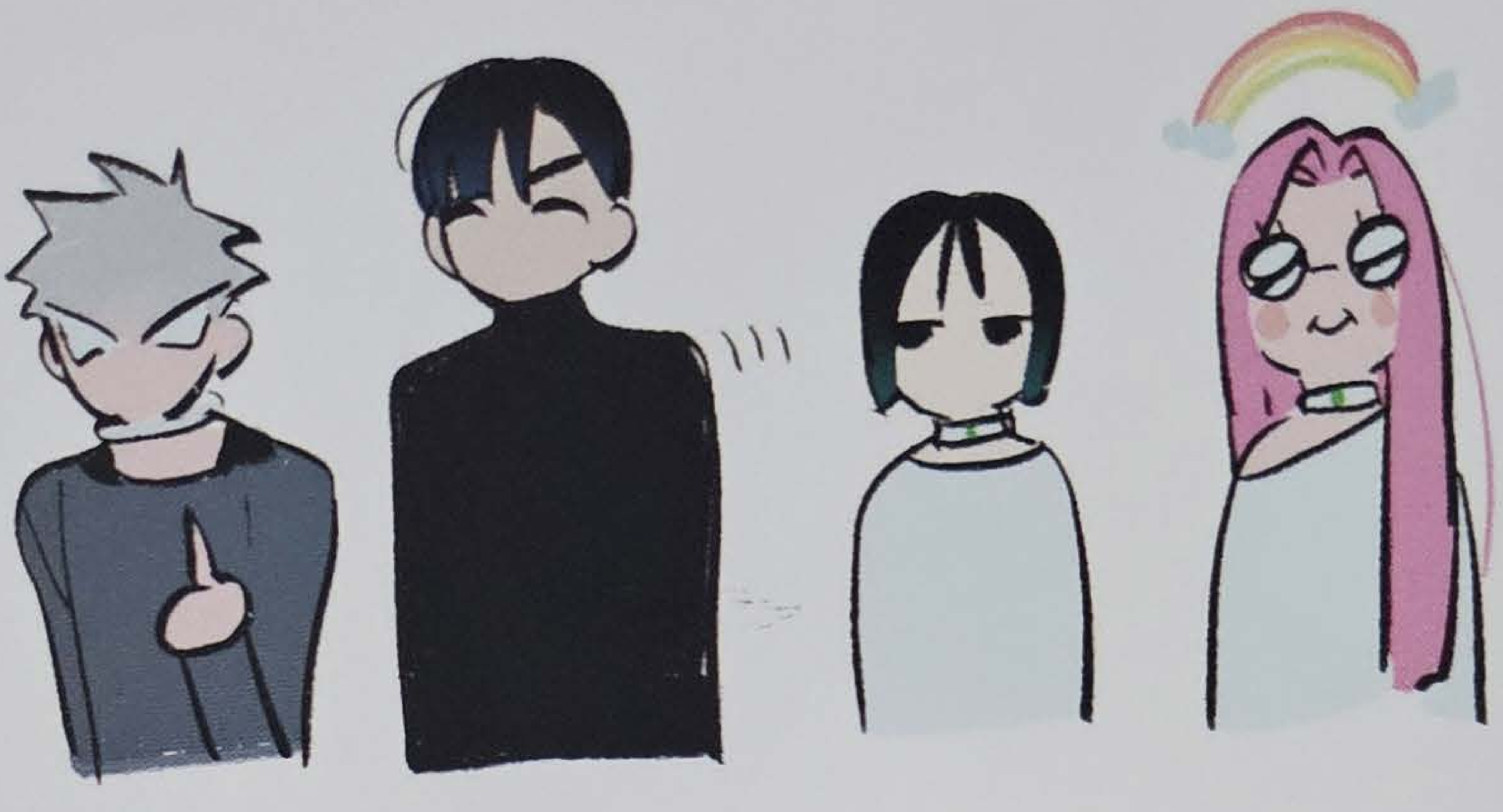
[COMMENT]

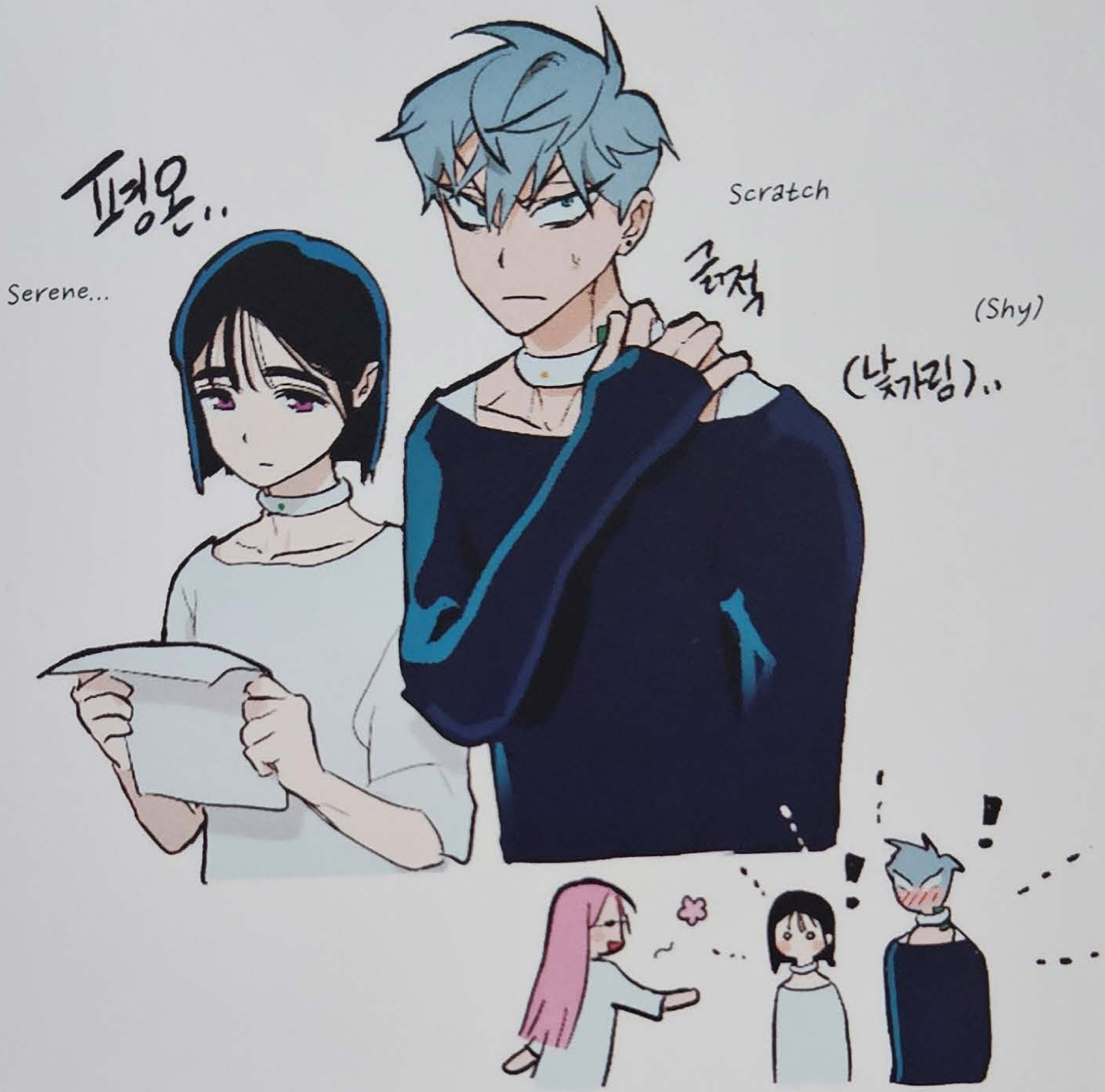
Had a relatively normal upbringing and level of wealth compared to the other Segyein. In a way, Nigeh's success in using their flashiness to become an influencer could be seen as talent. Out of the seven pet humans Nigeh adopted at the same time, Sua's exceptional singing abilities led her to be sent immediately to Anakt Garden. Nigeh was disappointed to hear that Sua died in ROUND 1 but was pleased to realize that Sua's death had become the latest hot topic, as if the attention it brought was their own accomplishment. They forgot about Sua once the interest died down, but Nigeh enjoyed that one moment of fame so much that they adopted other pet humans who looked similar to Sua.





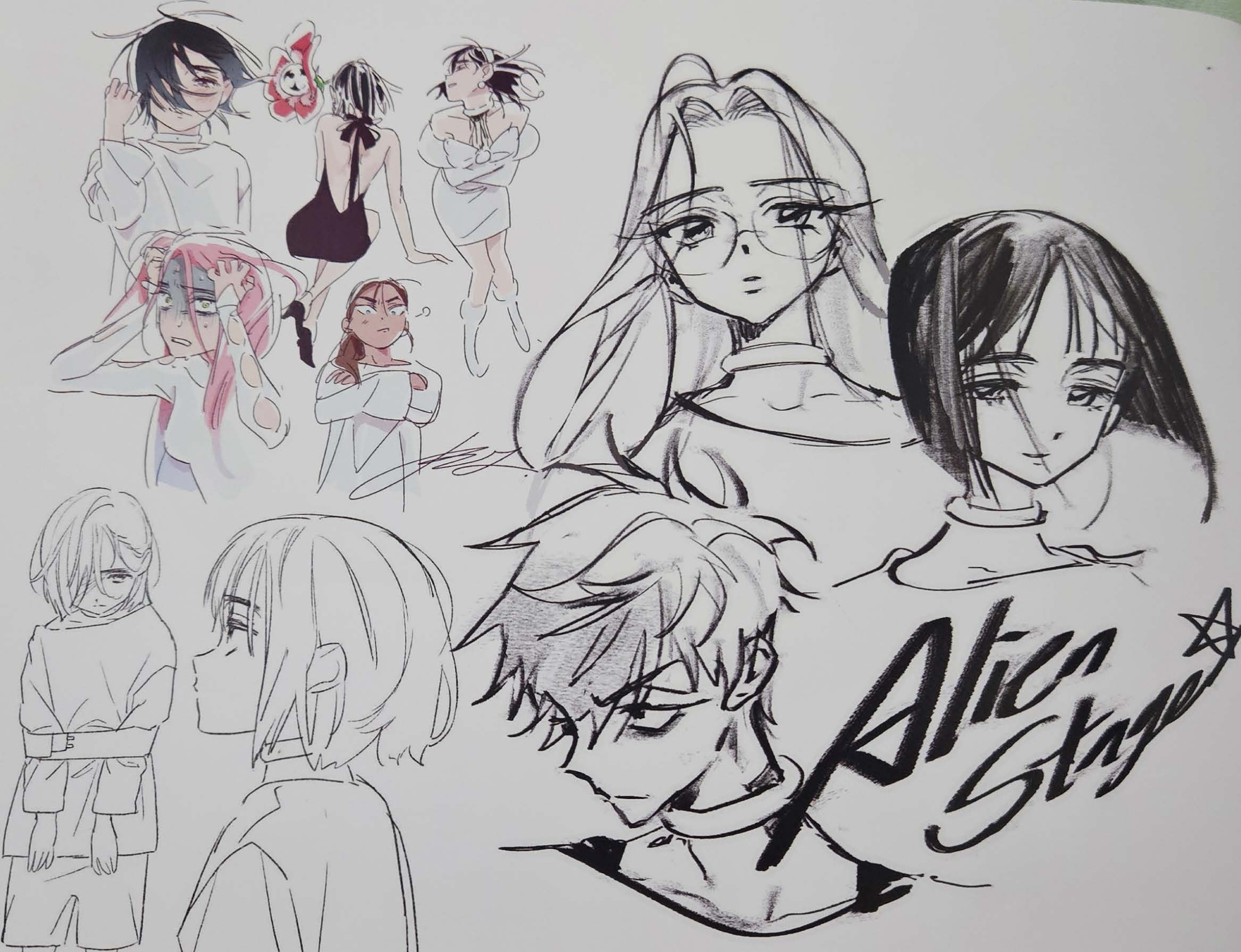
When the stress levels got high, illustrations like the ones above would be drawn.



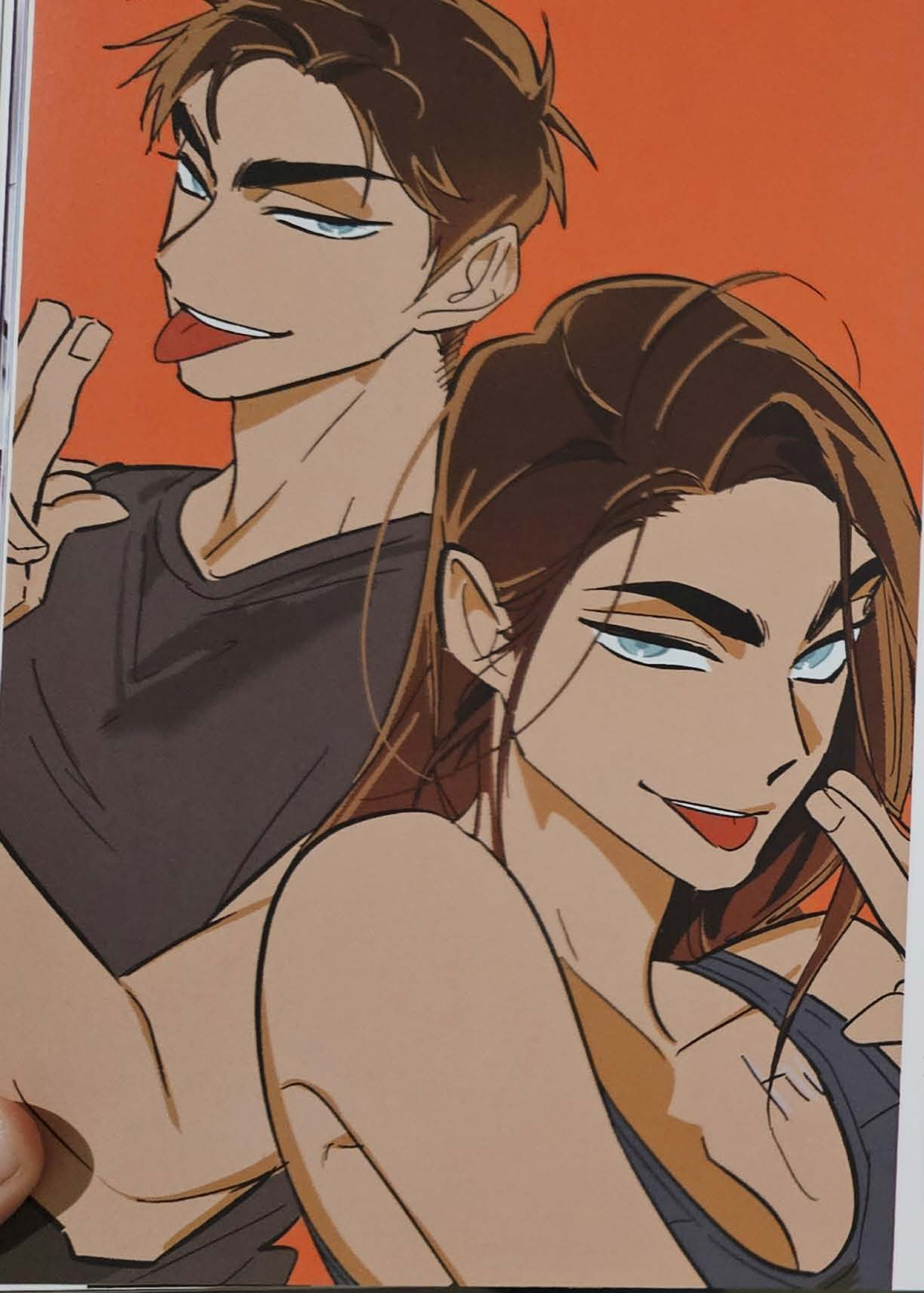


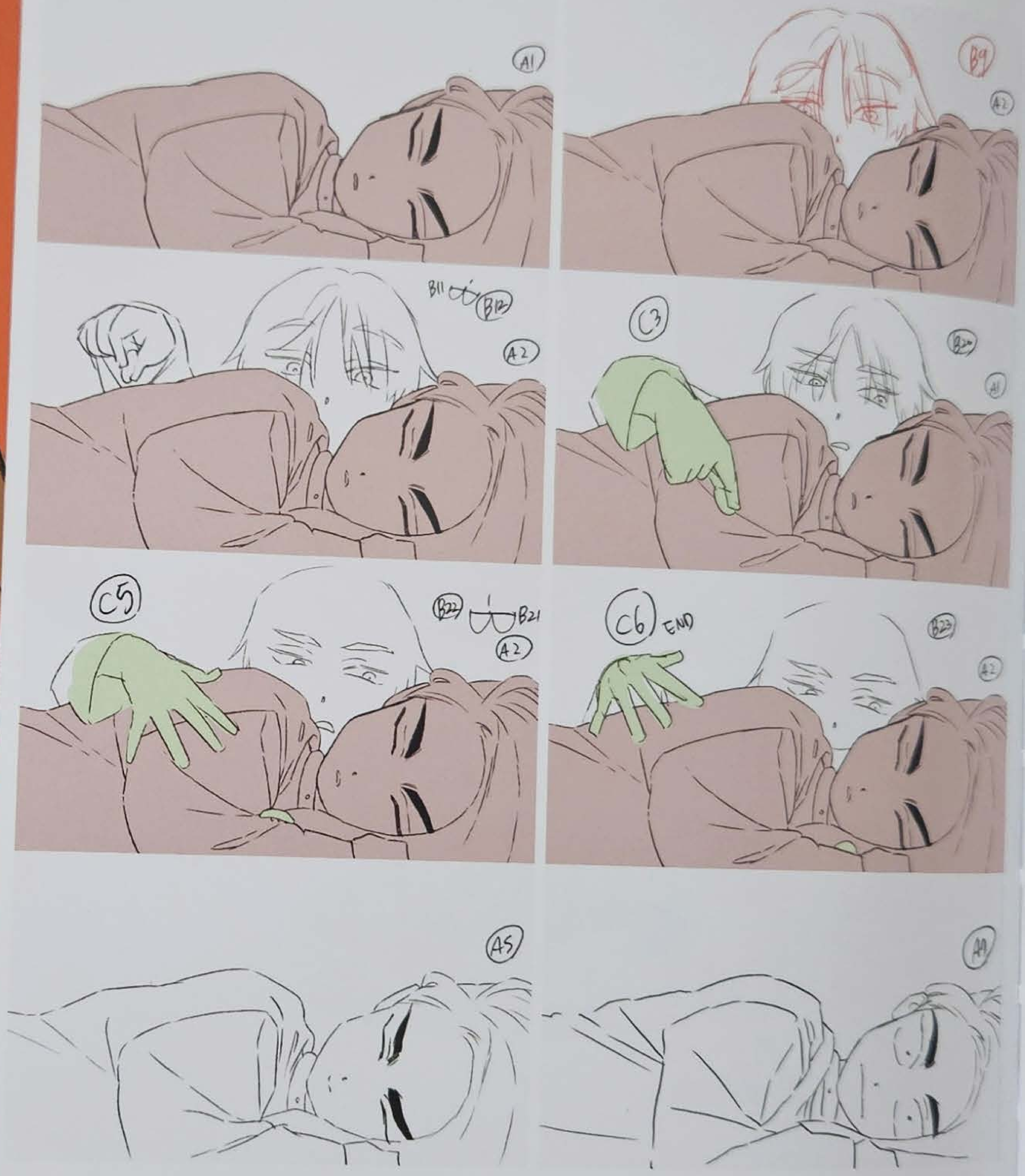
✧ Till has trouble dealing with Sua. Till would have been very uncomfortable when it was just the two of them, since he had no idea what she was thinking. He must have tried to interact and talk with her in the beginning, but Sua would never say a single word in response.

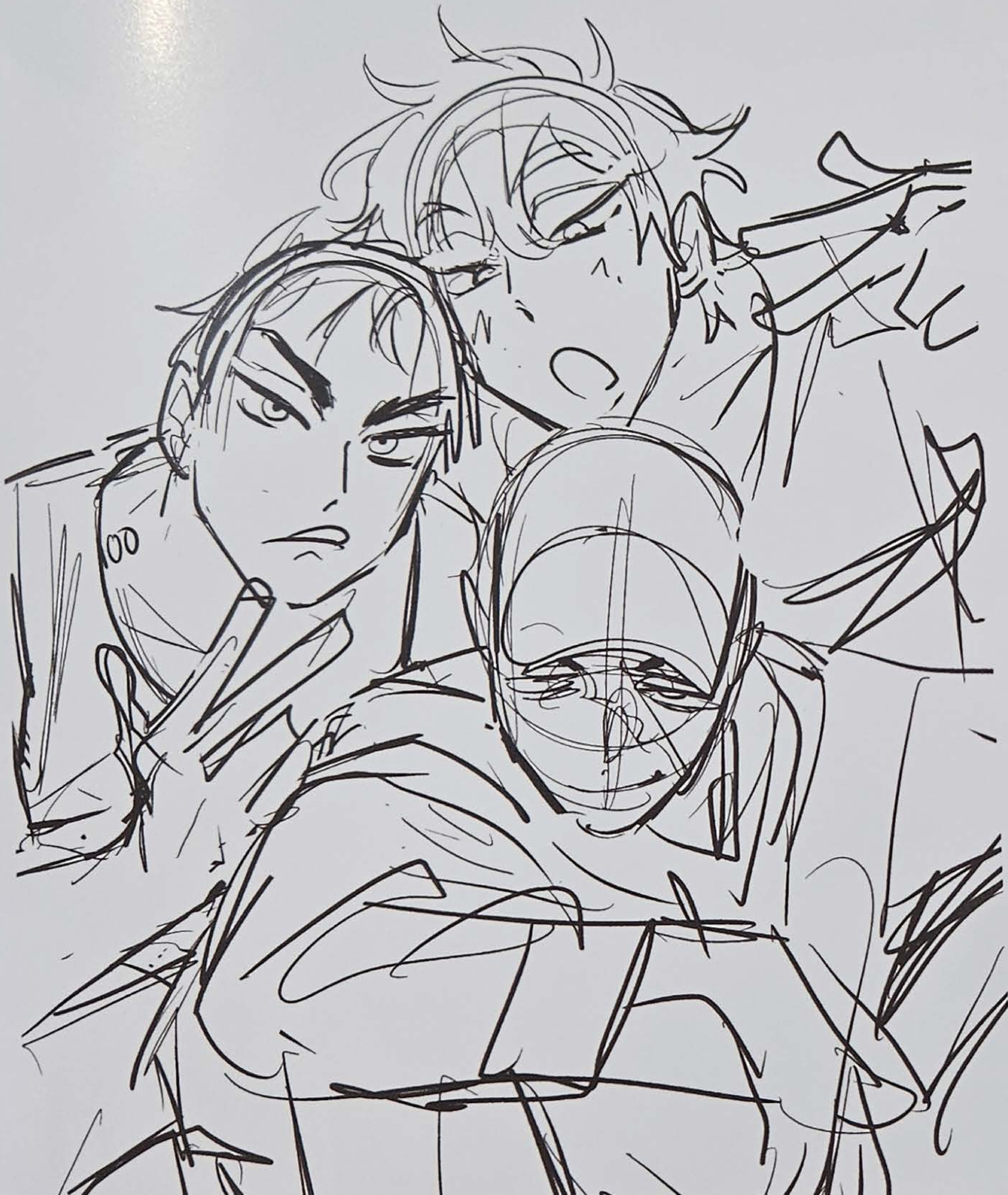
✧ Sua doesn't really care about Till. She is a little wary of him because he interacts with Mizi a lot but has no other thoughts about him.


Alice Stage

Everyone becomes an idiot
when they're in love...
사랑에 빠지면
누구든 바보가
되기 마련이다...
미
M-
미
M-
므.
Mi-
미즈..
Miz...
지미..
Zi..Mi..
지아..
Zi...
칭찬받음
Got a
compliment
Embarrassed
머쓱




A1
B9
A2
B11
B12
A2
C3
B20
A1
C5
B22
B21
A2
C6
END
B23
A2
A5
A4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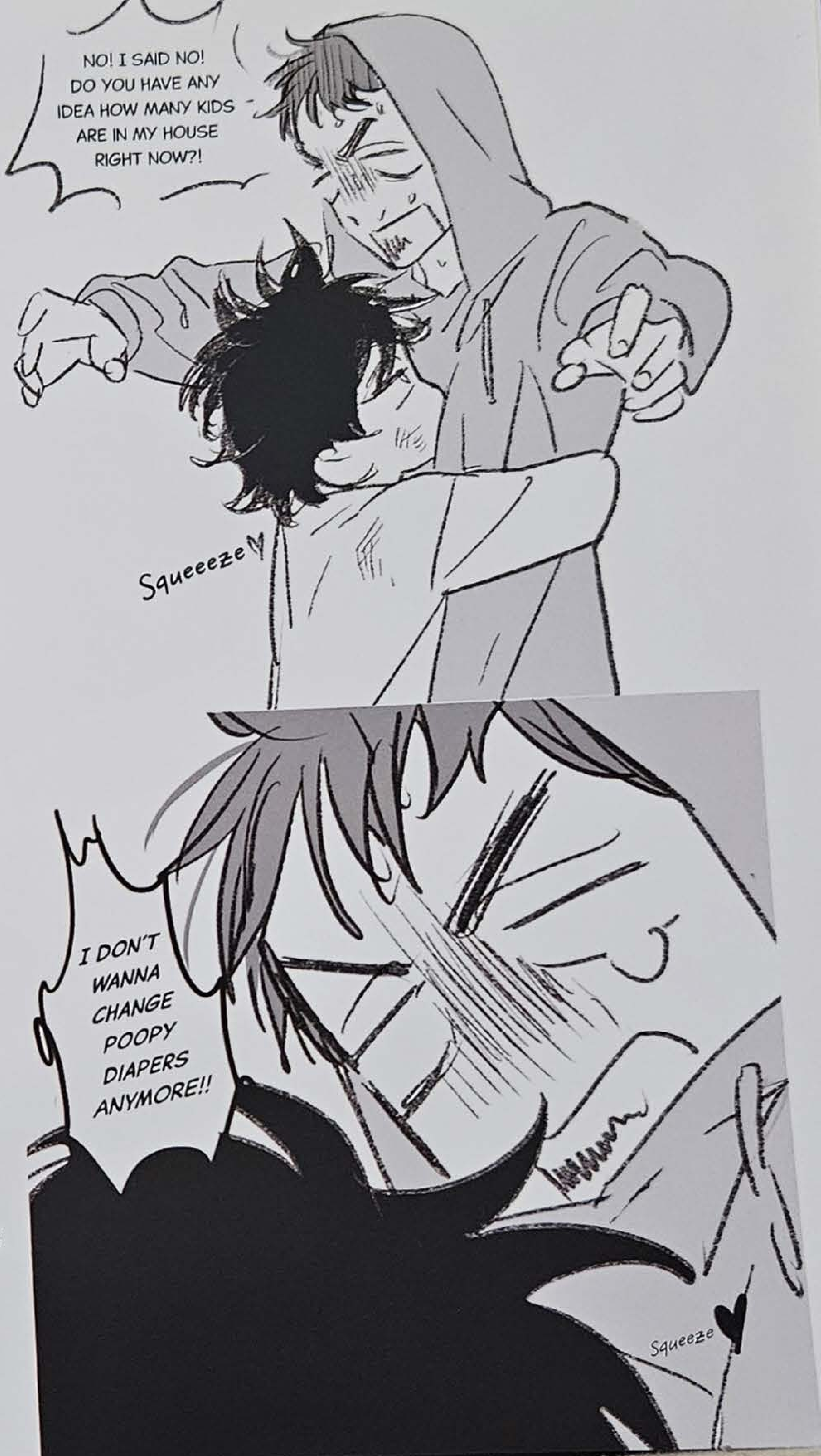
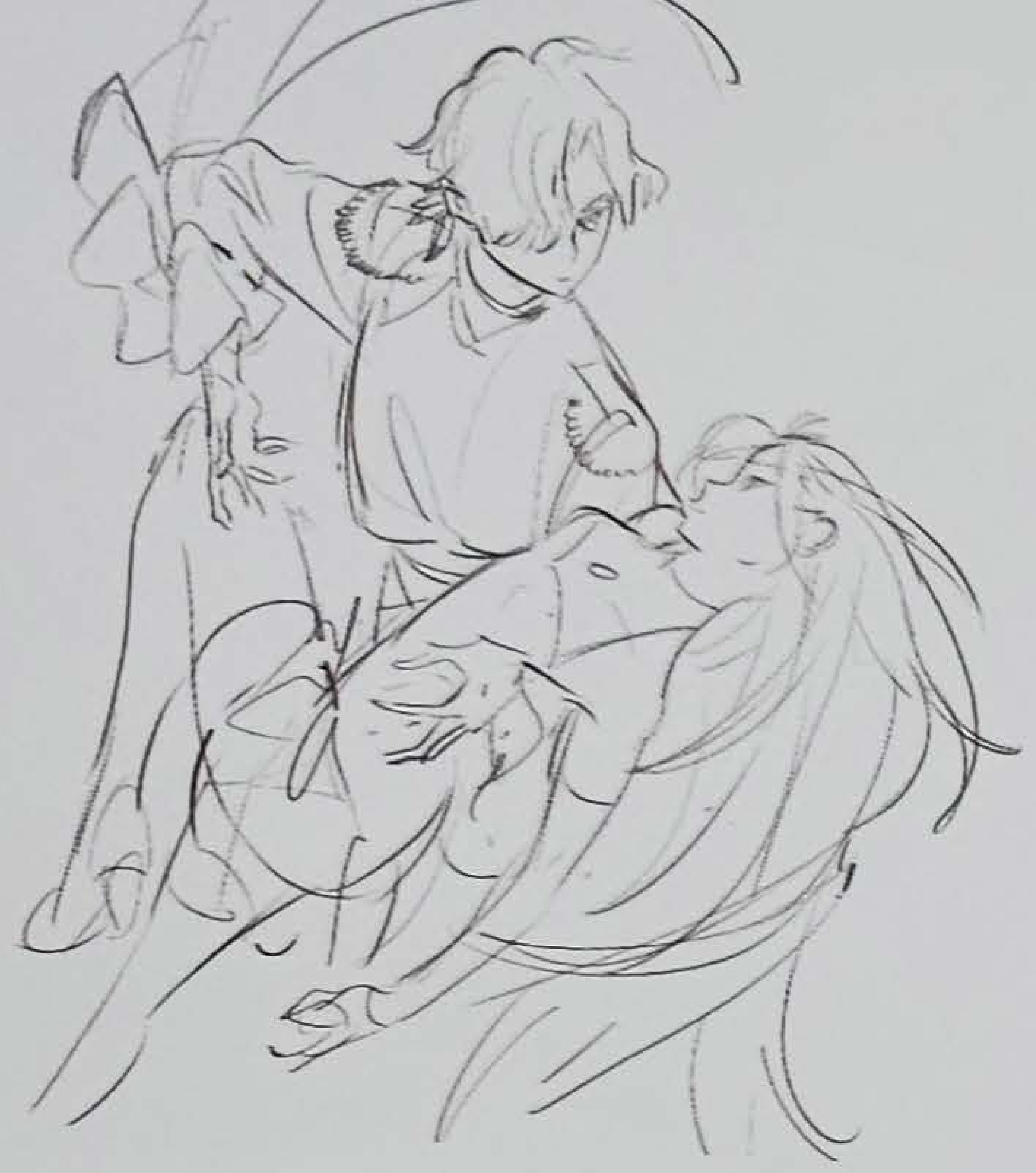
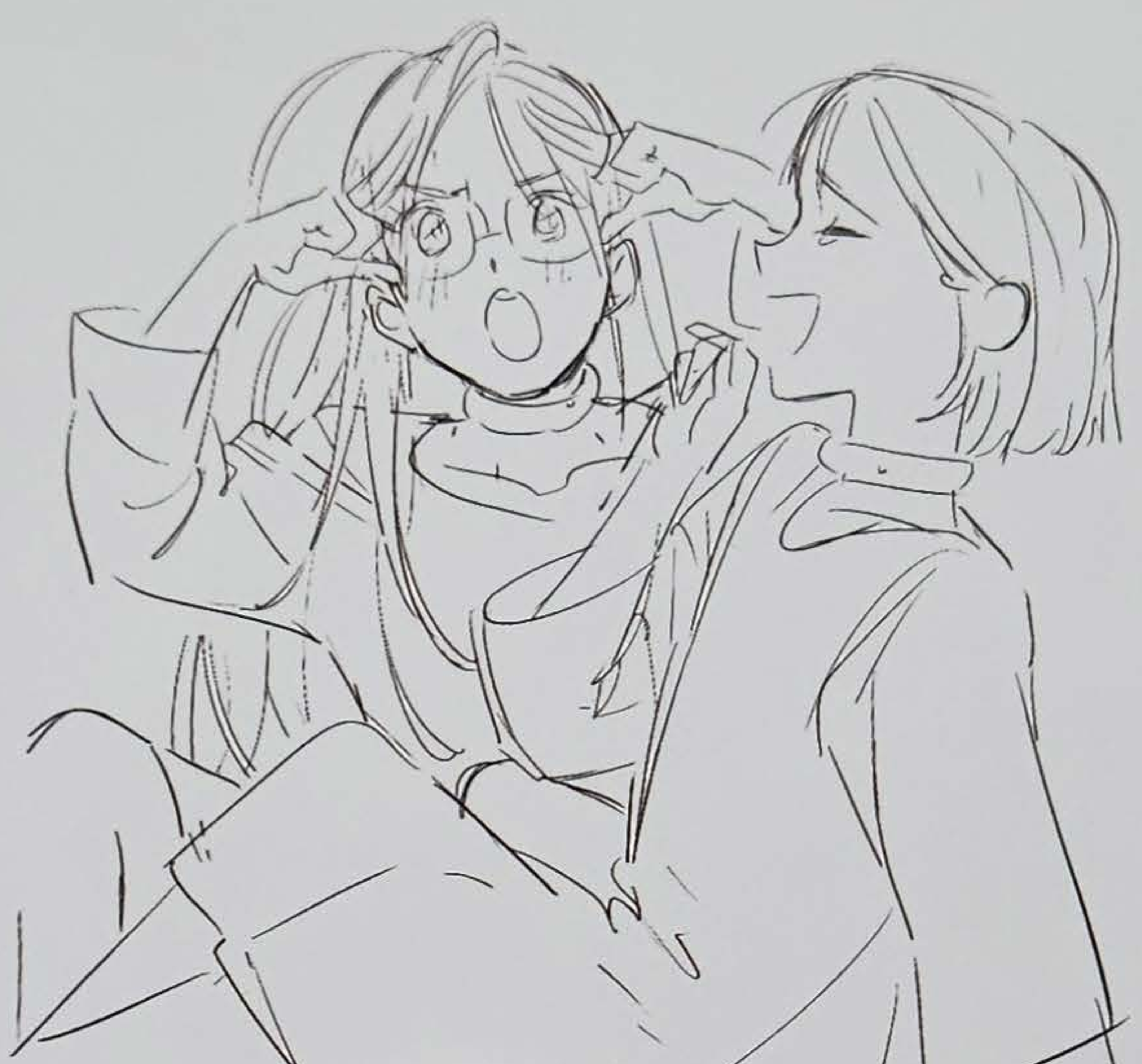
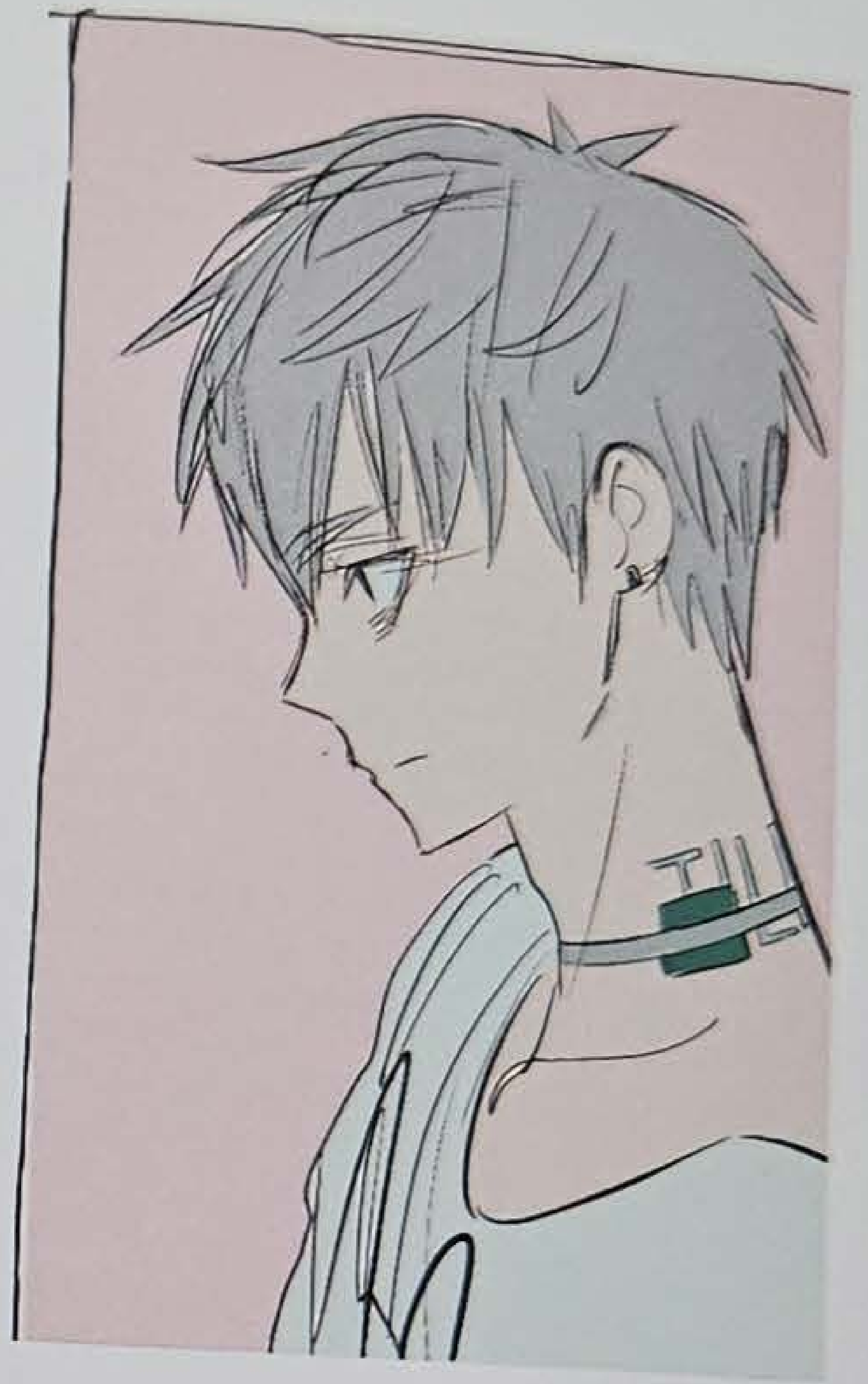
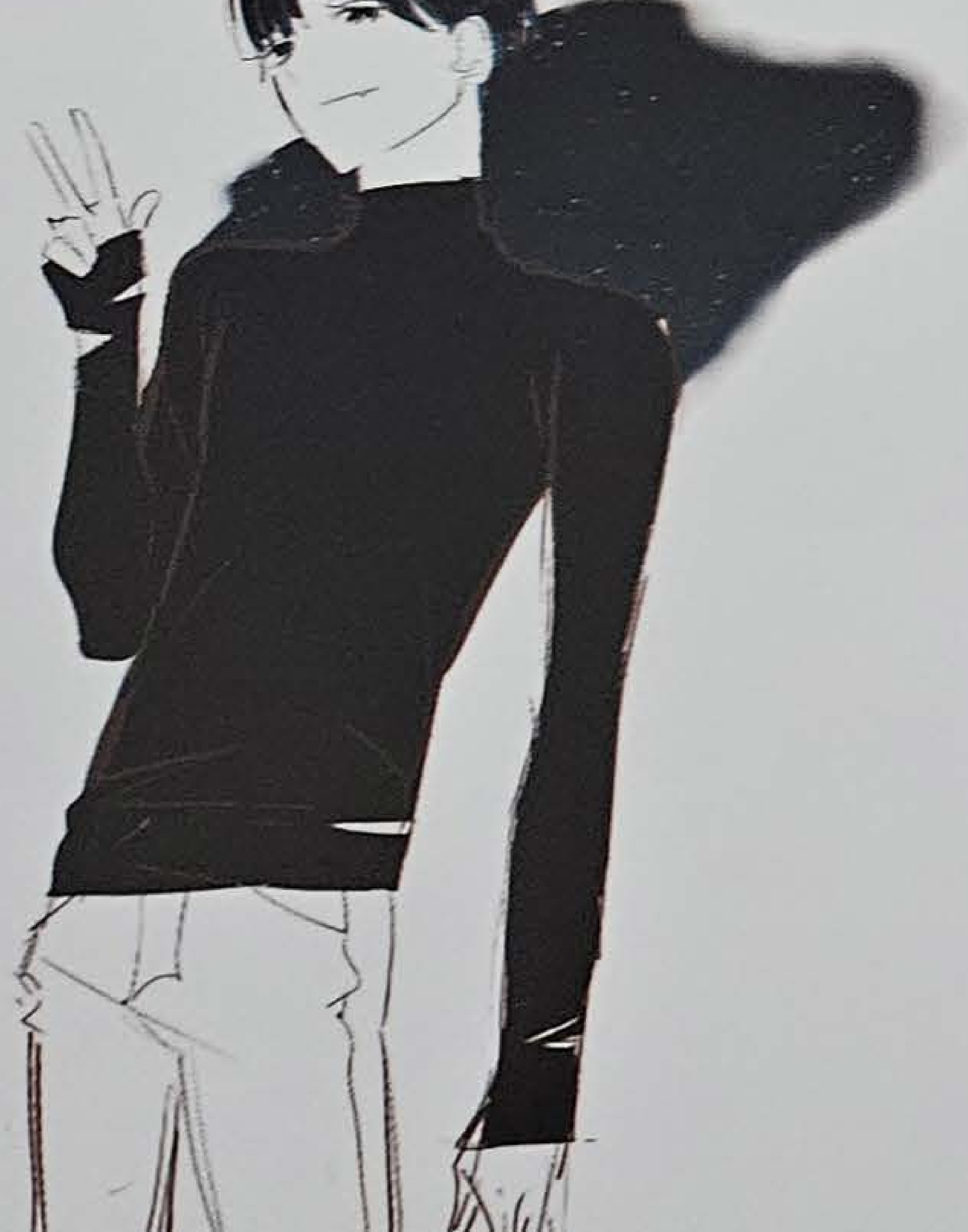
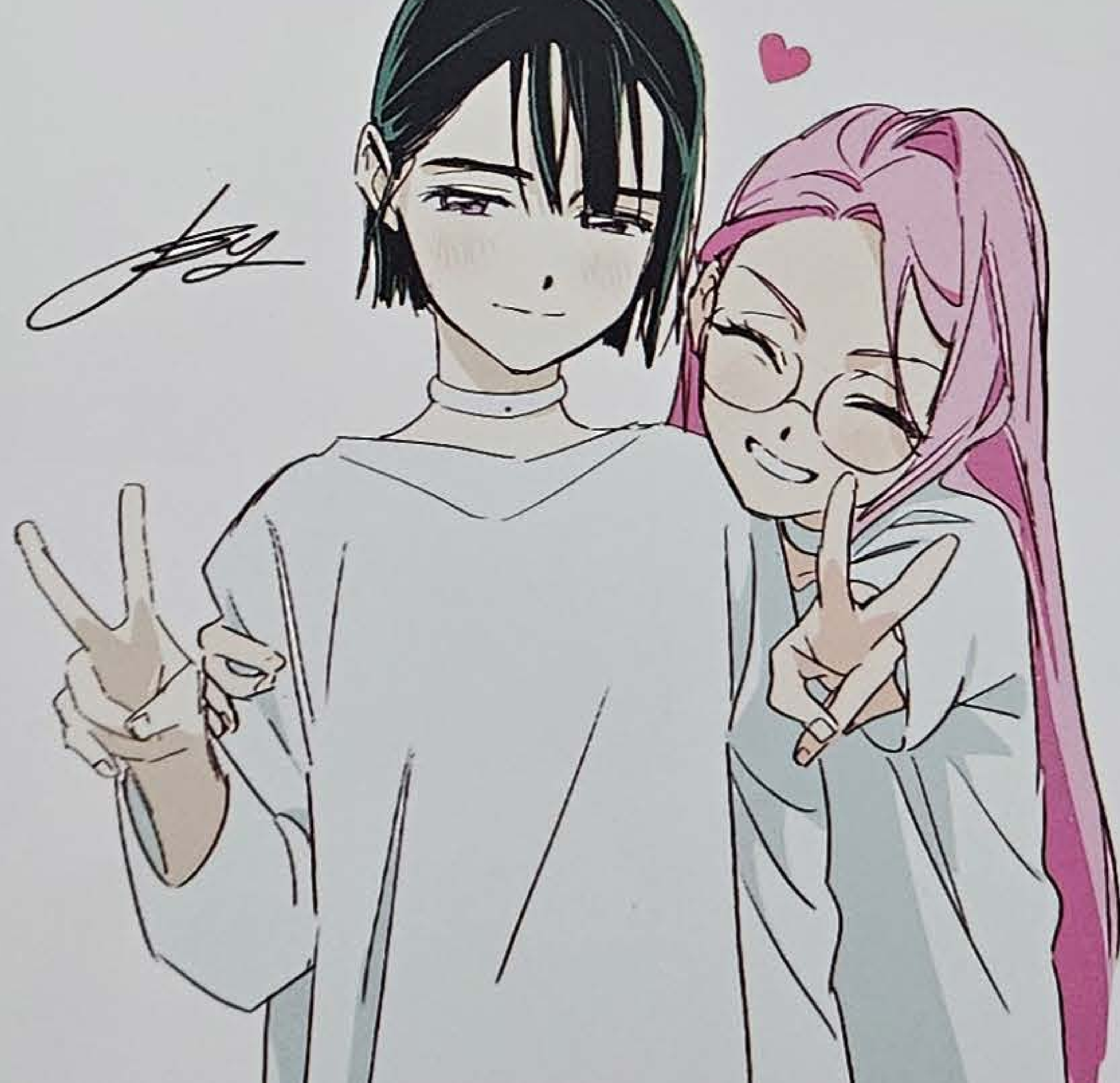

NO! I SAID NO! DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA HOW MANY KIDS ARE IN MY HOUSE RIGHT NOW?!
Squeeeze♥
I DON'T WANNA CHANGE POOPY DIAPERS ANYMORE!!
Squeeze♥

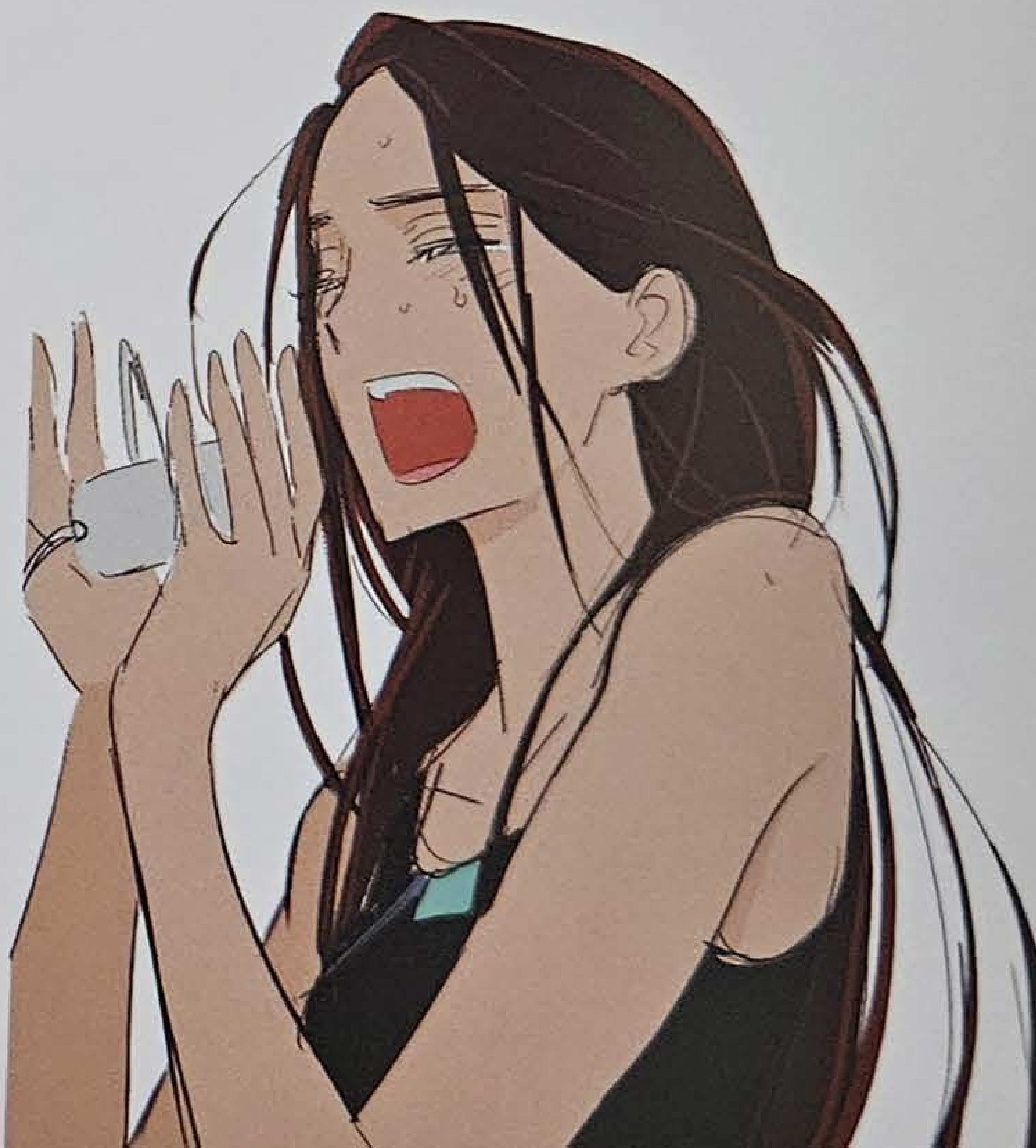


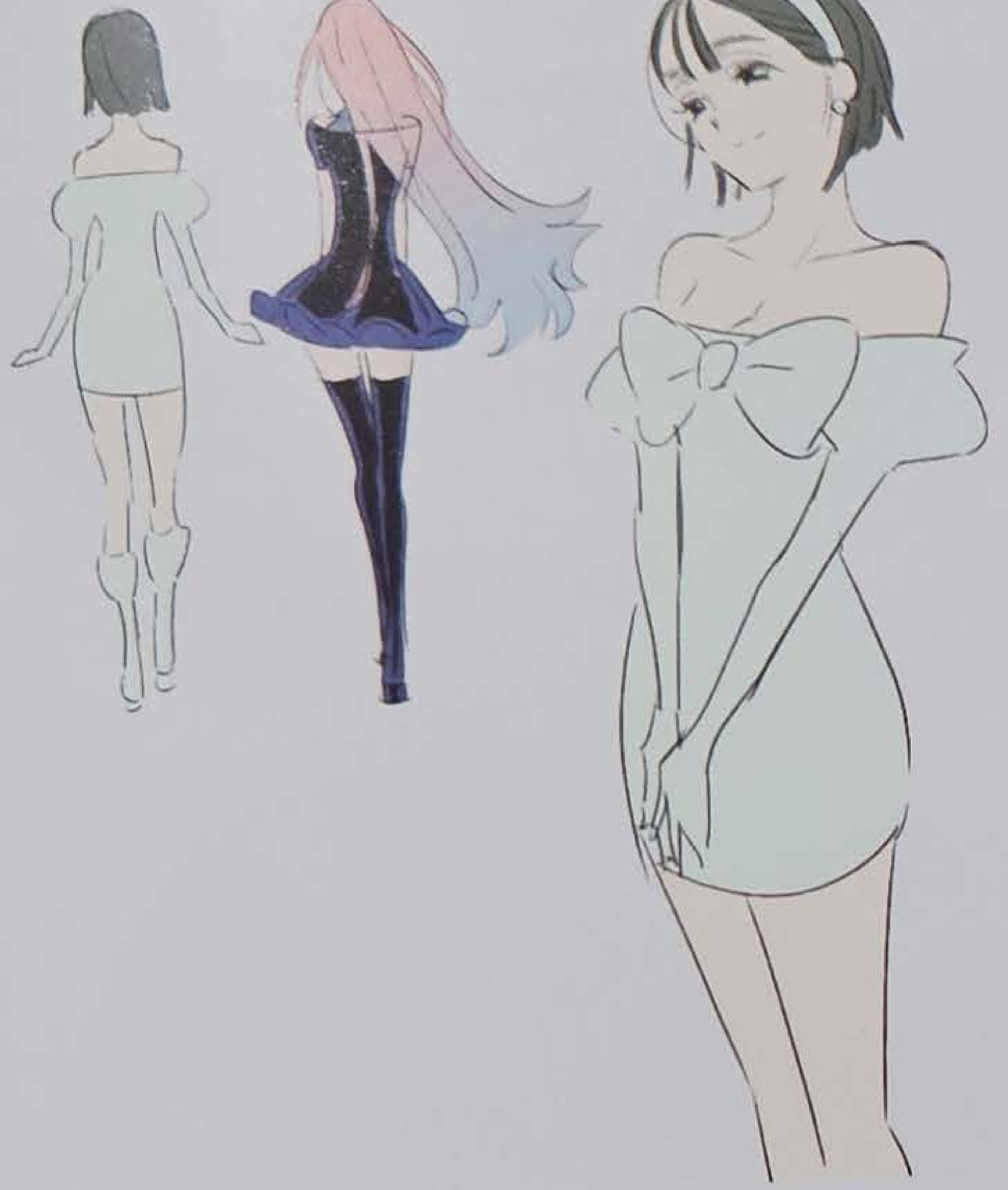


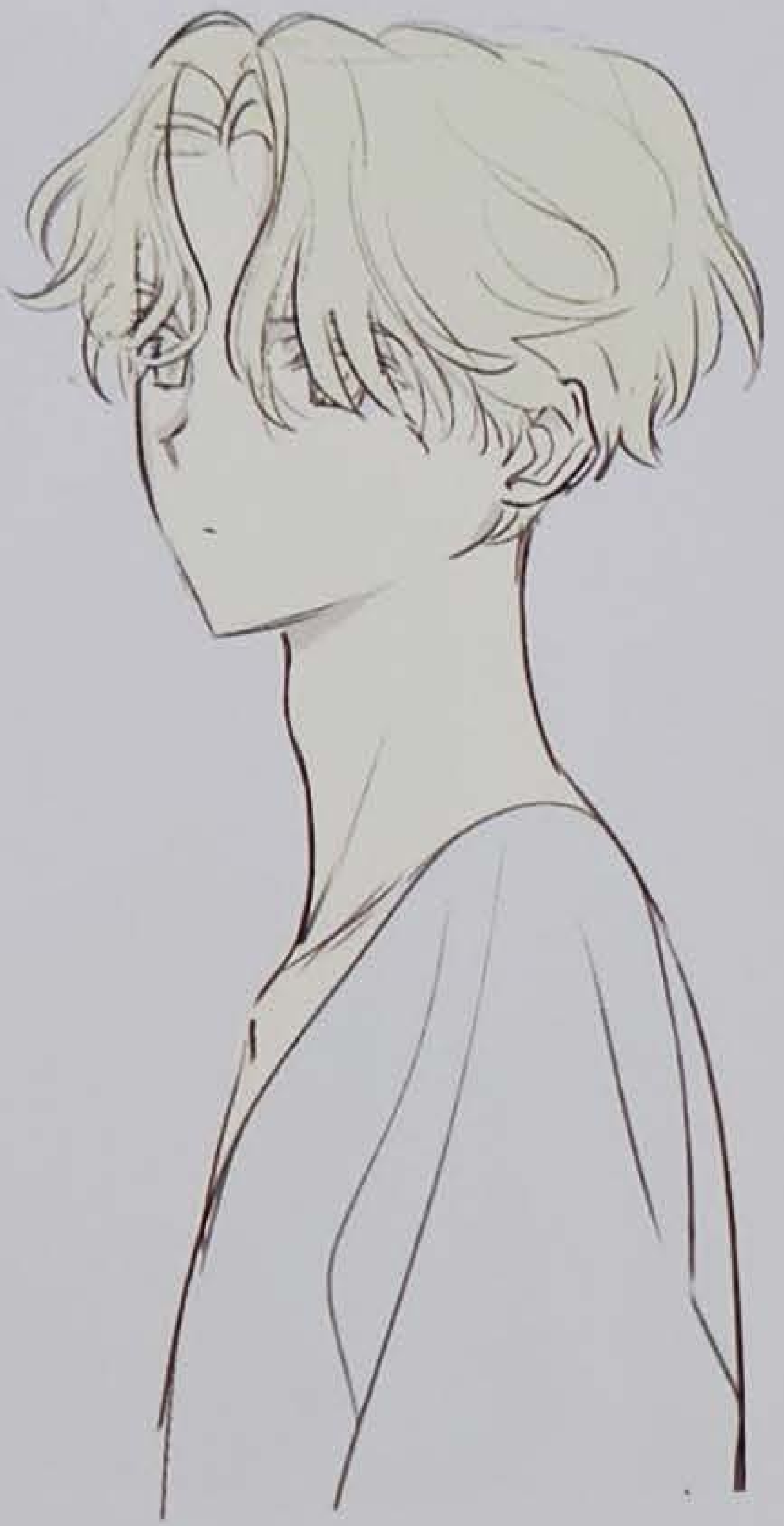


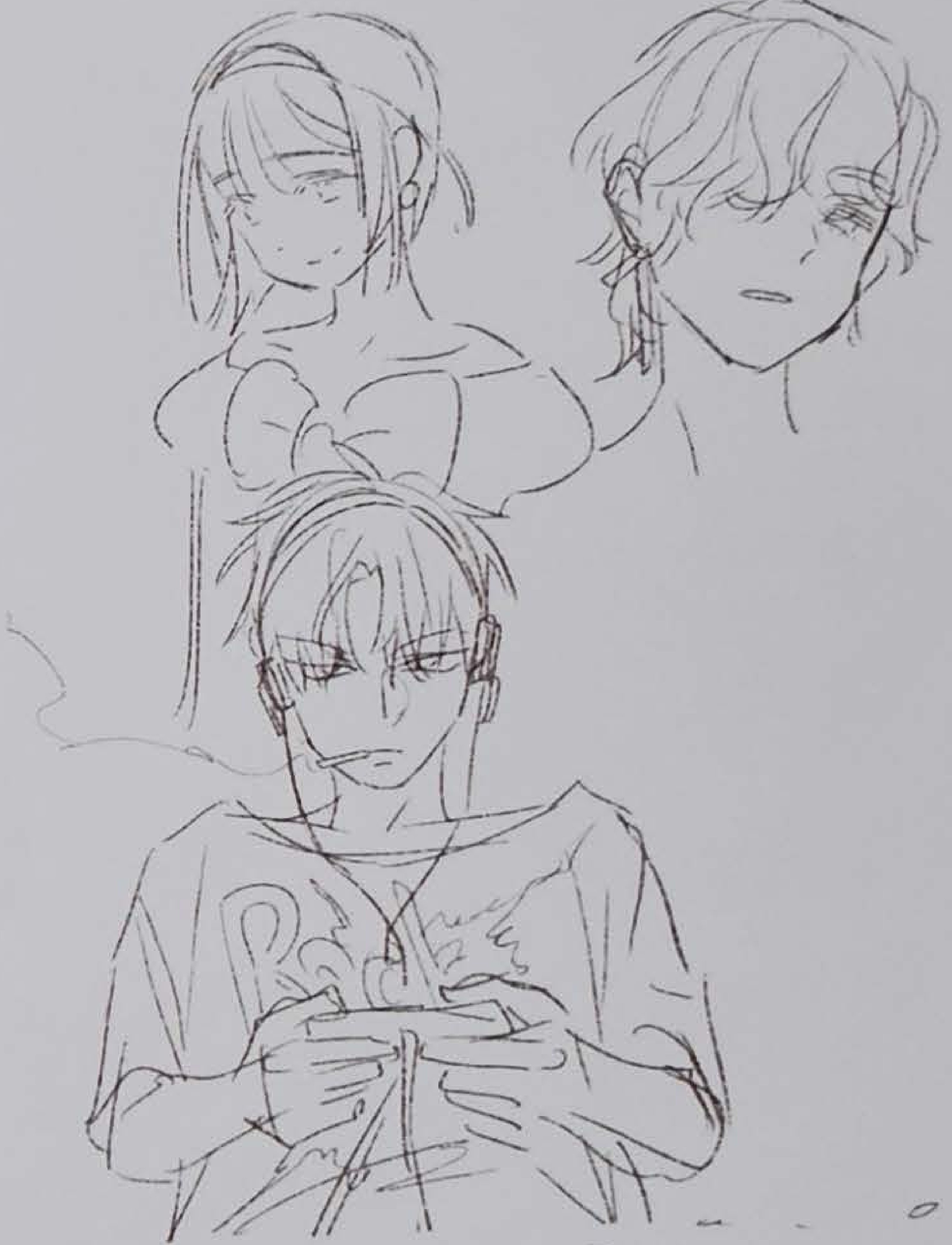


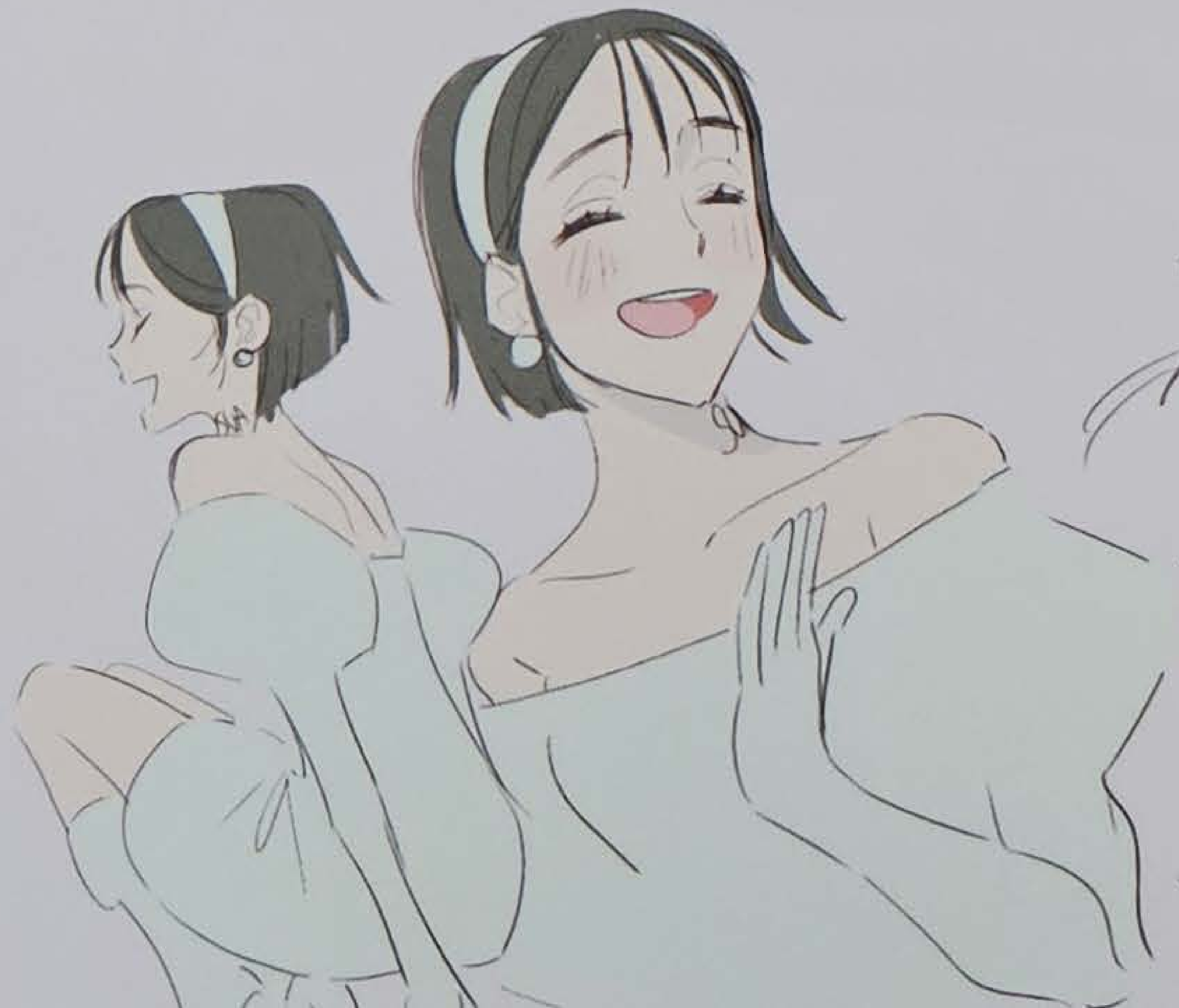


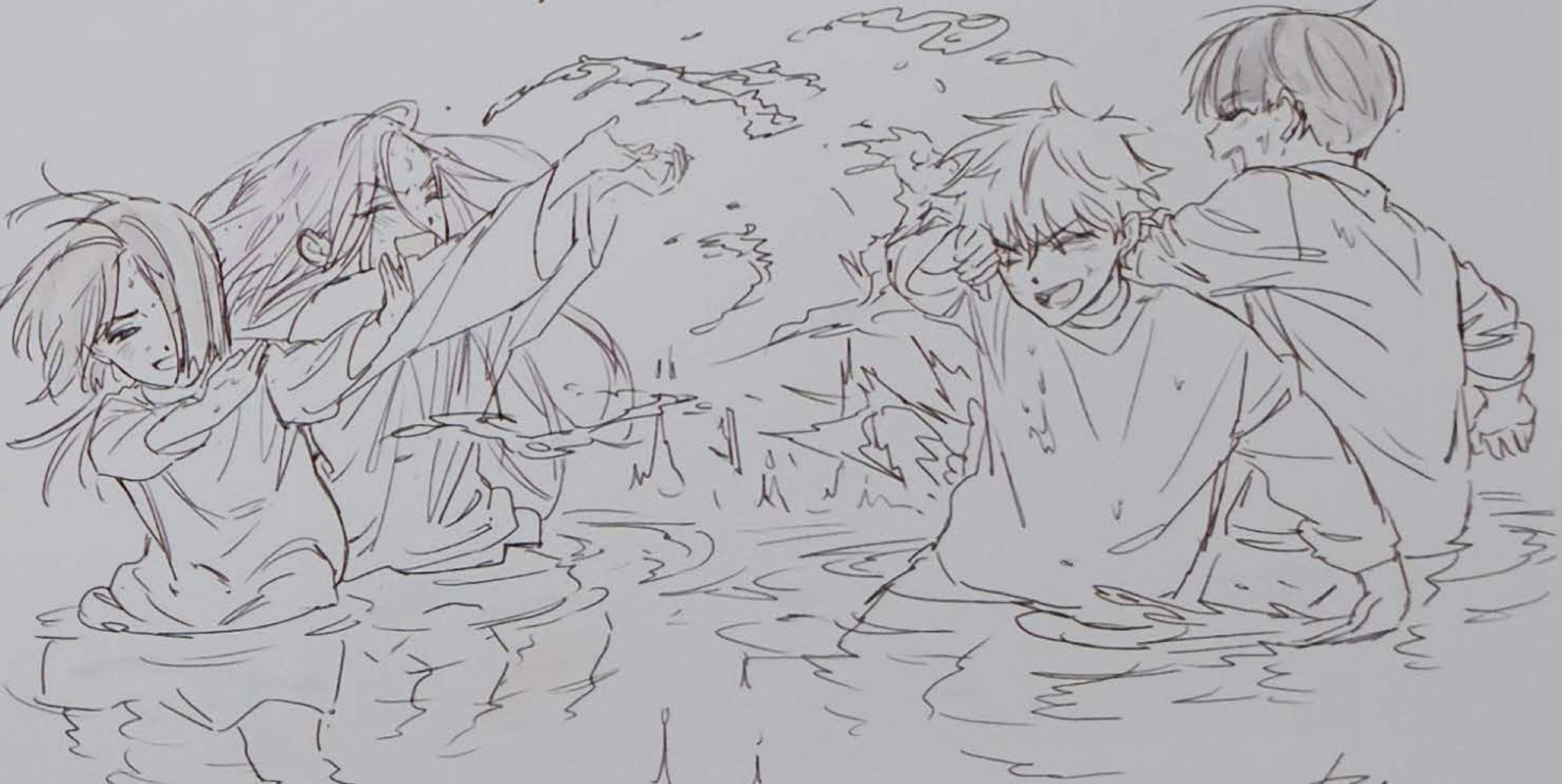


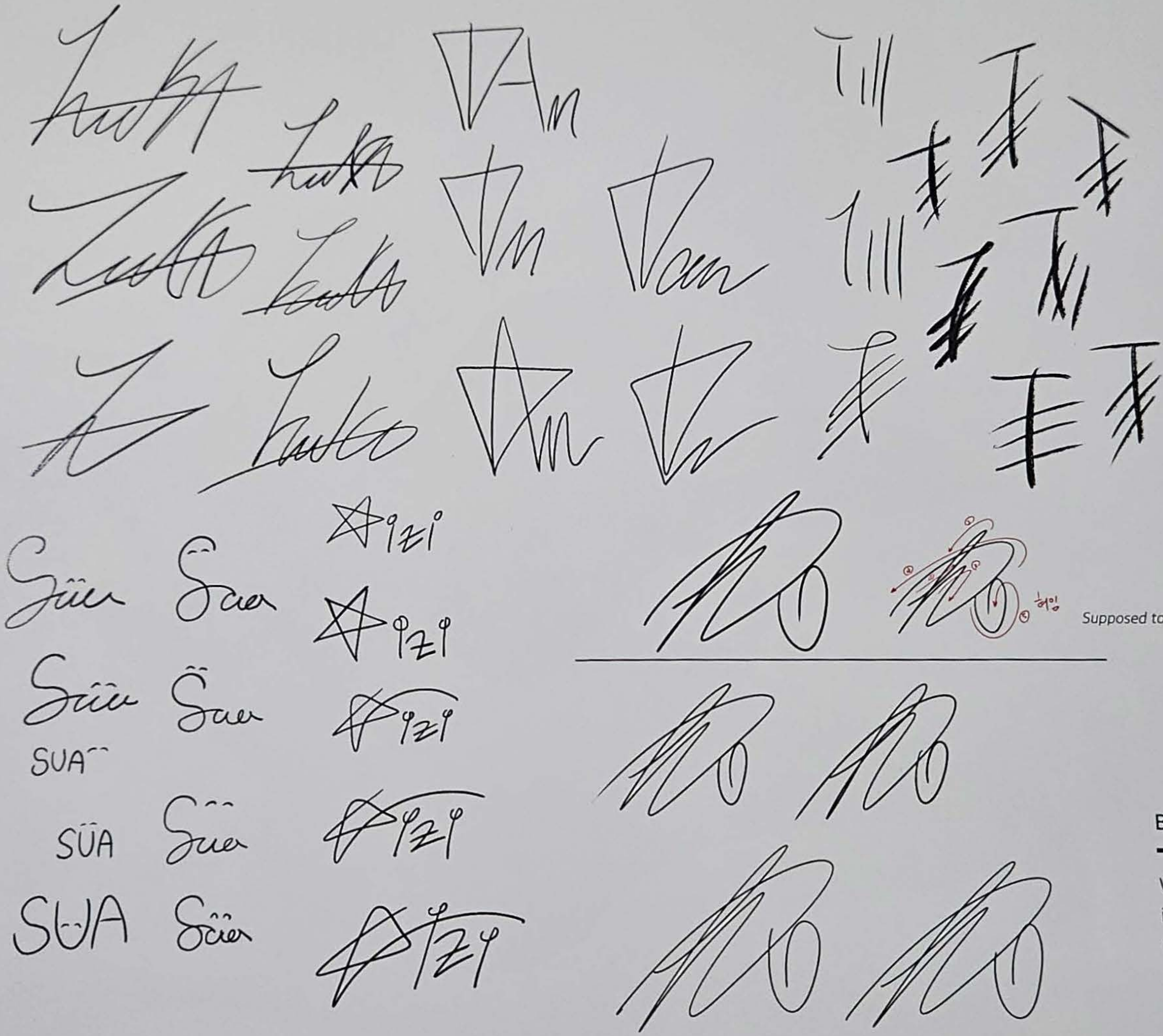










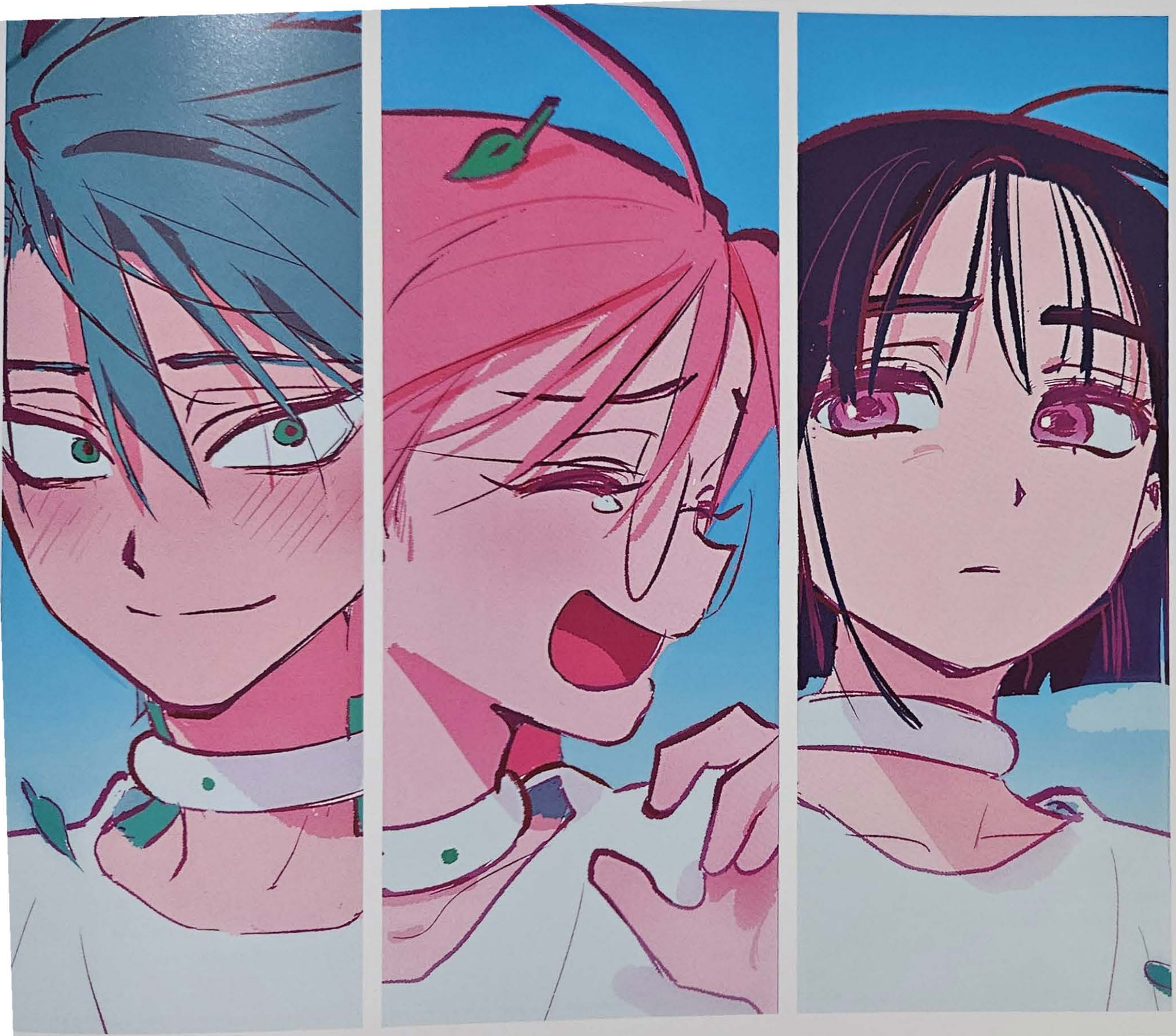


Supposed to be a tongue

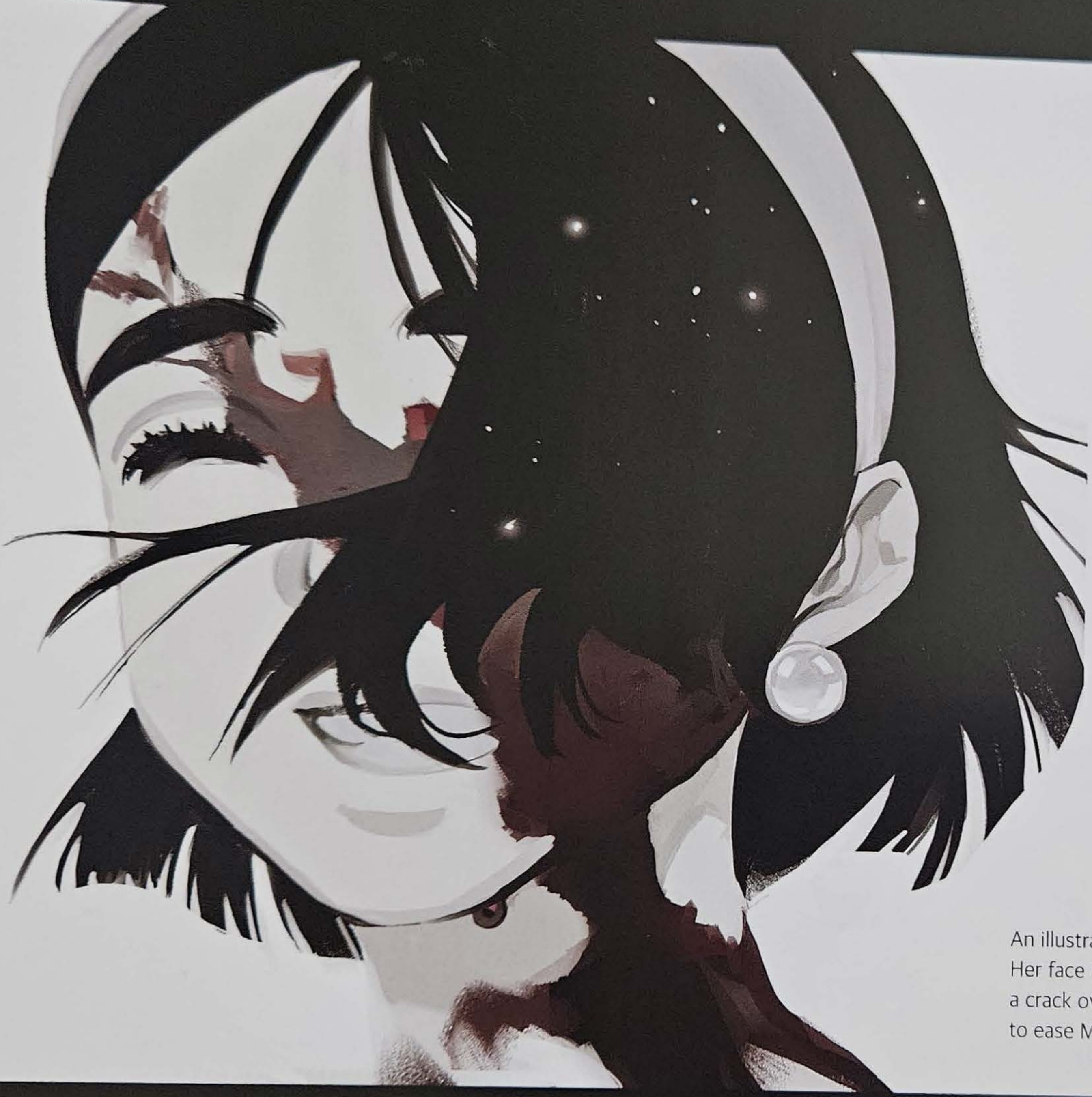
Behind the Signatures

We made these because we thought it would be nice to have signatures that reflected the characters' flair and personality. It's fun to compare Hyuna and Sua's signatures.

Album photo card draft. We wanted it to look as though we caught a sudden glimpse into their uneasy feelings.



We wanted to draw a moment that captured the dynamics of whenever Till, Mizi, and Sua were together. Sua is someone who is very greedy and obsessive and wants to be with Mizi forever without anything changing. She is cautious about the possibility that Mizi may change due to Till's influence.



An illustration that portrays Sua's death in ROUND 1. Her face is devoid of color, and her blood appears to form a crack over her face. But even until the end, she still tries to ease Mizi's anguish by giving her a bright smile.

with Director VIVINOS & Co-director QMENG

How did *Alien Stage* first get made?

VIVINOS When I was thinking about what to do for our next project, I got an idea for a sci-fi death survival match between two girls. I mentioned the idea in passing to QMENG and Callnong in a small wine bar in Hongdae, and their reception was overwhelmingly positive. So that's when I decided we needed to do this. Afterwards, we created four characters, drafted up details, and went straight into production. In particular, QMENG and I made the storyboard for episodes 1~3 in a single night, and the creative fervor we felt then was unmatched. Creating *Alien Stage* was a wonderful gift for our whole team and gave us many fun memories to look back on.

QMENG It was originally Director VIVINOS's idea, but I've always loved sci-fi so much that Callnong and I really pushed for it to happen. I still remember the wine bar we were at that day. When I visited that place again recently, I noticed that the scribbles we had made on the wall back then had already been covered up by more recent ones. They say ignorance is courage, and we had no idea just how difficult it was going to be when we first started. Still, I don't regret pushing for this idea to happen that day.

What were you most mindful of when making *Alien Stage*?

VIVINOS There are too many things to list, so I summarized the three most important points. We tried our best, but I'm not sure if we were completely successful...

$\boxed{1}$ A project that doesn't lose its charm despite the limited production conditions

$\boxed{2}$ A project that reflects the preferences of the other team members so that everyone can enjoy the process

$\boxed{3}$ A project with a clear message from the director

QMENG I think I approached it from a slightly different angle. While Director VIVINOS took on the role of making "a fun, riveting work," I shifted my focus to try and make that idea into a believable video. Other aspects I was mindful of were working with the team to create an efficient workflow, showing new things with each round, imitating Director VIVINOS's artstyle while adding my own strengths, and trying to understand Director VIVINOS's instructions and points of focus to be able to show them 100% to the viewer.

Q Any notable anecdotes from the production process?

VIVINOS Rather than anecdotes, I learned a lot of lessons. I've always been someone who worked by myself, and being part of an animation project and having other team members let me experience things that I never would've experienced on my own. Even during difficult times, having strong trust in each other as we worked gave me irreplaceable allies and taught me about responsibility. It's all thanks to *Alien Stage* and all of you who love *Alien Stage.*

QMENG I feel embarrassed, since I can only remember my mistakes. And I'm still constantly making mistakes. I think I kept reflecting on my own lack of skill and my decision to jump into a project like this without much thought. I can think of a lot of stories, but I'm afraid to tell them since I only remember the embarrassing and painful memories... (I just remember crying every day.) All I see in the videos are all the shortcomings, so I'm just grateful to everyone who enjoyed them nonetheless. I hope I make a lot of happy memories in the future.

Q Has there ever been a time when the two of you had different interpretations of a character?

VIVINOS All the time. For example, I draw Sua as a fragile girl, docile and obedient yet always repressing something, with darkness inside her accumulated over time. Whenever QMENG draws Sua, she becomes a more cynical and slightly aggressive character. These differences are becoming less pronounced as we talk more with each other.

QMENG It's always happened. We're able to talk it out, but in the past we've gotten into some serious arguments. In the end, I think we were able to make multi-layered characters due to us being such vastly different people. In that sense, it makes me wonder if co-directing was a double-edged sword. Thankfully, we are much better at working with each other than before.

Q The stages are different for each episode — does the wealth of the guardian affect the stage infrastructure?

VIVINOS The amount of funding depends on the contestants' marketable value. Of course, the guardians can add their own funds as well. The smallest stage infrastructure was Till's in ROUND 2, and the biggest and most extravagant stage was Luka's in ROUND 5.

Q We're curious when the characters receive their songs, and if they practice with their opponent.

VIVINOS They receive the sheet music for their songs a week before their performance, and they sometimes discuss or practice with their opponents! In Till's case, he sang his own original song despite already receiving a song he was supposed to perform with his opponent. He really is the troublemaker of Alien Stage, which is why he often requires all these extra commentaries.

Q How do the stage outfits get made?

VIVINOS They are crafted by Anakt Group's outfit designers after careful analysis on the contestants' charms and the desires of the fans. Fun fact: during ROUND 2, Till thought his shoes were uncomfortable and threw them out before he got on stage.

Q How do you decide the characters' birthdays?

VIVINOS I do remember taking my time to think about them, since they need to fit the characters' image. I didn't really consider their birth gems or birth flowers, but I remember checking them one day and being surprised that they fit the characters really well! Rather than gems or flowers, I focused on whether the date itself and the season matched the character or not.

QMENG It's always a dilemma on how we should celebrate each of their birthdays. I remember drawing hasty silhouettes for the birthday illustration. Ivan's birthday was never revealed, and I'm personally a fan of this decision.

Mizi & Hyuna	Their birthdays have a connection.
Ivan	We decided his adoption day was on February 14th, which was thought to be the most romantic date. In hindsight, it's a little cruel.
Till	The beginning of Summer, and it's also on World Music Day.
Sua	The clean, innocent image of winter's first snow fit Sua, so we decided on December. She is based on Yuki-Onna and Snow White after all.
Luka	We made Luka's birthday the day before Christmas Eve. We hope he can at least enjoy his birthday.

Q If it wasn't for their cruel world and circumstances, could the six main characters have been friends?

VIVINOS Yes, I'm sure they would've been friends who lived normal lives for their ages. I do eventually want to show them in a setting where Alien Stage doesn't exist.

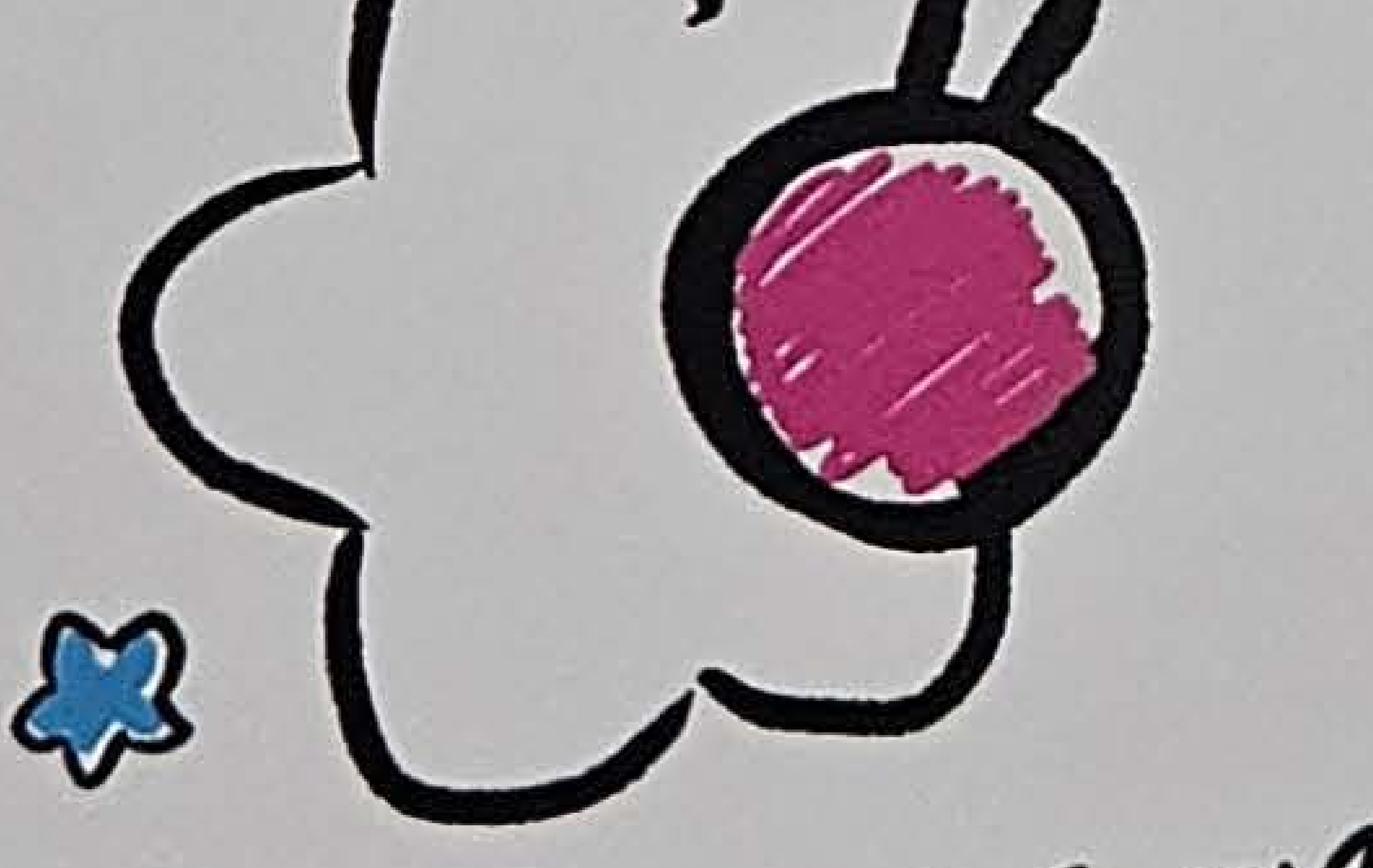
QMENG Director VIVINOS and I are always thinking of ideas for this topic. I believe that people's awareness of the world and of themselves, as well as their defense mechanisms, can vary greatly depending on what kind of lives they've lived. If these kids grew up in a normal world, I would think that their personalities and relationships with each other would be a lot different than they are now. A modern-day *Alien Stage* sounds like it would be really fun to make.

Q Lastly, is there anything you would like to tell the *Alien Stage* fans?

VIVINOS Thank you for enjoying *Alien Stage*! This is the first time I've received such overwhelming support, so I am always grateful. Lately, no matter how busy we are, the whole team is having a lot of fun. Even making an artbook like this seemed impossible a year ago, so it all feels unreal. As long as the interest is there from you all, we plan on continuing to make more fun works. So we hope you all continue to support us!

QMENG I occasionally get the chance to see fan comments and fanart through acquaintances showing them to me, and they give me the strength to push on, even when I'm crying and having a hard time while working. In the past, I could never empathize with famous directors saying things like "we were able to make this thanks to all the love from the fans," but I completely get it now. Thank you all for the wonderful gift you give to us whenever work gets tough and painful.

vivinos



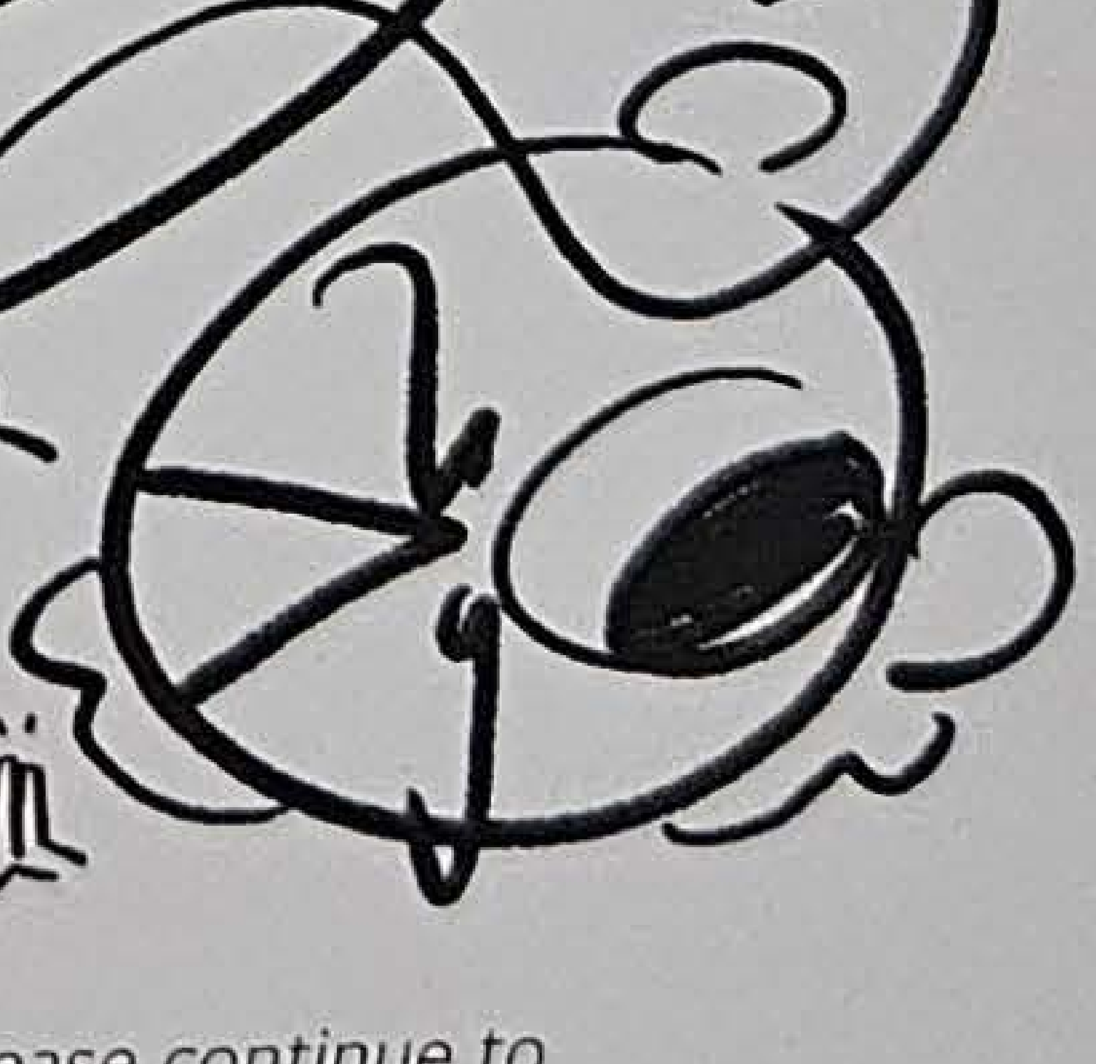
감사합니다♡에이스테 화이팅!

Thank you ♡ Cheers to Alien Stage!

Thank you!

감사합니다!

Qmeng



앞으로도
에이스테를
사랑해주세요

Please continue to love Alien Stage.